FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

5 MAY 1983

Shultz Tour - Lebanon

Negotiations — Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin announced that, after his "very pleasant" talk with Secretary of State Shultz, Israel will "very soon convoke a Cabinet session in order to make the decision that only the Cabinet is authorized to make." Important matters still need to be resolved because "not everything has yet been agreed," Begin also noted in his statement, which was broadcast by Jerusalem radio. Barring an unexpected hitch, the Cabinet will approve the draft agreement between Israel and Lebanon, Jerusalem television affirmed in a related report. Noting that the Cabinet will have to adopt new decisions on Major Sa'd Haddad's status and on joint IDF-Lebanese patrols, the television said both Israel and Lebanon have compromised on these points. Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil has accepted Shultz' proposals on Haddad's status, the television said, and if Israel approves the draft agreement submitted by Shultz, the secretary of state will visit Damascus on 7 May for a talk with President Hafiz al-Asad "which will probably be the toughest part of his mission."

Earlier, after the talks between Shultz and Lebanese leaders, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan declared in a statement broadcast by Voice of Lebanon radio that the United States and Lebanon now have "more than at any time before a beneficial understanding on most of the disputed points." Noting that the remaining differences are between Lebanon and the Israelis, he said the U.S. side now has Lebanon's "final stand" on the basis of which "action must take place." In remarks broadcast by the Voice of Lebanon, Foreign Minister Elie Salim warned that "sharp differences" persist between Lebanon and Israel but affirmed that, "if our proposals are accepted in Israel, then we will be on the road to a solution." Lebanese sources cited by Beirut radio said the agreement will include a withdrawal scheduled over 8-10 weeks that will enable Lebanon to prepare sufficient security forces to "fill the vacuum" caused by the IDF's departure.

Saudi Comment — While expressing optimism over the possibility of a comprehensive agreement between Israel and Lebanon, the Saudi paper AL-JAZIRAH warned against the likelihood of Israeli "treachery," according to Riyadh radio's 5 May press review.

Syrian-Saudi Summit — President al-Asad is expected to meet with King Fahd in Jidda on 5 May, Radio Monte Carlo reported. According to the Voice of Lebanon, Fahd and Al-Asad will discuss regional developments in the light of Shultz' tour.

Lebanese Military, Security Situation — Nine IDF soldiers were injured in two further attacks on the Israelis near B'abda and 'Ayn Zhalta, according to IDF Radio reports citing the IDF spokesman. In the wake of the B'abda incident, IDF gunfire inadvertently hit the U.S. Marine headquarters compound at Beirut International Airport, Jerusalem radio noted. The shooting stopped quickly after the Marines contacted the IDF liaison office.

Reporting on Syrian reinforcements in Al-Biqa', the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon said the Syrians had installed SAM-6 batteries in the foothills east of the valley.

PLO

'Arafat Meetings in Damascus — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat met in Damascus with Syrian defense squads commander Rifa't al-Asad, Radio Monte Carlo reported. They discussed bilateral relations and the current regional and Palestinian situation and stressed the need to hold similar meetings in the future, according to an official statement cited by the radio. 'Arafat also discussed the military situation during a meeting with PLO faction leaders and representatives, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported.

Kuala Lumpur Meeting — PLO Political Department chief Faruq Qaddumi told a Kuala Lumpur press conference that in the PLO's view returning to the United Nations could be one way to settle the Palestinian problem, KUNA reported. Qaddumi, who is in the Malaysian capital for the Asian regional conference on the Palestinian question, said the United Nations "could be particularly useful" as a vehicle to supervise the withdrawal of Israeli forces from all occupied territories as a prelude to a negotiated settlement. While emphasizing that the PLO has not lost its confidence in the United Nations despite its failure to implement various resolutions on Palestine, Qaddumi hastened to add that currently the PLO favors the Fes plan as a basis of a settlement. Commenting on the impasse in the peace negotiations between Yasir 'Arafat and Jordanian King Husayn, Qaddumi denied reports that the talks were stalled by radical elements within the PLO who wanted 'Arafat to adopt a tougher stance and instead placed the blame on U.S. failure to apply pressure on Israel and on U.S. nonrecognition of the PLO.

Iran

Dissolution of Tudeh Party — Prosecutor General Hoseyn Musavi-Tabrizi announced the dissolution of the "pro-Soviet and treacherous" Tudeh Party, IRNA reported. Accusing its members of plotting against the Islamic Republic, the announcement charged the party with espionage activities, misappropriation of arms for the purpose of using them against the Republic, industrial sabotage, and infiltration into government and revolutionary organizations as well as military and security centers. The announcement stressed that any activity on behalf of the party is now considered an "illegal and counterrevolutionary act" and called on all members to register with the prosecutor's office. Anyone who fails to register within the prescribed time will be considered a "counterrevolutionary and a plotter" against the Republic, the announcement added. Meanwhile, in a statement broadcast by Tehran radio, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni

praised the efficiency of the security services in "trapping the treacherous leaders" of the party which, "like a spotted snake, was engaged in hypocritical activities aimed at the downfall of Islam."

Expulsion of Soviet Diplomats — Iran has decided to expel 18 members of the Soviet mission. A Foreign Ministry statement broadcast by Tehran radio accused the Soviet diplomats of interfering in Iran's internal affairs by establishing contacts and taking advantage of "treacherous and mercenary agents" working against the interest of the Islamic Republic in direct violation of accepted diplomatic practices. The Soviet ambassador was told to send home the officials declared personae non grata within 48 hours, the statement said.

Monitored Soviet media have not reported the expulsions.

Gulf Oil Slick

Iran has informed the Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment [ROPME] that the burning Nowruz oil rigs have melted sooner than expected, thereby raising the quantity of leaking oil to 7,000 barrels a day, ROPME Information Center Director Khalid Fakhru announced in a statement reported by WAKH. Speaking at a Manama seminar reported by AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ, Fakhru said it will now be difficult to repair the valves linking the wells to the rigs because they have fused.

Libya

Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi informed the Brazilian ambassador in Tripoli that Libya refuses to receive the cargo from the Libyan aircraft detained by Brazil unless it is carried by the Libyan planes, which are under orders to leave Brazil only with their full cargo, Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio reported. Noting that Al-Qadhdhafi considered Brazil's behavior "unacceptable, unreasonable, and insulting," the radio said he informed the ambassador that, if Brazil insists on taking the side of "imperialism" against the Nicaraguan people, "its only right" is to allow the Libyan planes to return home carrying their full cargo. Libya will instruct shipping and air companies not to transport the cargo, the radio said.

FBIS

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PLO Radio on 'Arafat-Al-Asad Damascus Meeting

JN041720 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has met with President Hafiz al-Asad. Present at the 4-hour meeting were PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum and members of the PLO Executive Committee Zuhdi an-Nashashibi, Jamal as-Surani, 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, Talal Naji, Ahmad al-Yamani, Muhammad Khalifah, and Hanna Nasir.

The two sides discussed intensively the recent developments in the region including the Israeli concentrations and moves against the joint forces in Al-Biqa' and northern Lebanon and means of facing the expected Zionist aggression.

Al-Wazir on Meeting

PM042226 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 4 May 83 pp 1, 2

[ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT correspondents' report: "Abu Jihad to ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: 'Period of Estrangement and Inactivity Is Over'; Al-Asad, 'Arafat Meet for First Time in 7 Months"]

[Excerpts] Damascus and Beirut [No date given] — In an extremely important political development Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat met yesterday in Damascus for the first time in 7 months. Meanwhile, large Israeli military reinforcements weree observed heading from southern Lebanon to the east, toward the contact lines between the Syrian and Palestinian forces on the one hand and the Israeli forces on the other.

Observers link the 'Arafat-Al-Asad meeting to the decision by the Palestinian Higher Military Council to declare a state of maximum alert in the PLO forces in Lebanon.

Observers also link 'Arafat's arrival in Damascus Sunday to the reports about war which have been emanating from Damascus, occupied Palestine, and Moscow since U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz began his tour of the area 10 days ago.

Commenting on the Al-Asad-'Arafat meeting in a telephone conversation with the ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT correspondent in Damascus, Khalil al-Wazir (Abu Jihad), deputy commander of the Palestinian Armed Forces, said: "Everybody is happy at the return of relations to normal. Though these relations were strained recently, we believe that this period of estrangement is over. We consider today's (yesterday's) meeting a new starting point for the consolidation of our fraternal relations and the achievement of Syrian-Palestinian cohesion. This is dictated by the nature of the difficult stage through which the Arab nation is passing, a stage in which the Palestinian revolution, Syria, and the Arab nation are threatened."

Abu Jihad stressed that yesterday's meeting took place after a series of intensive political and military consultations at meetings chaired by 'Arafat in the last 2 days. He said that as a result of these meetings all our cadres have been placed in a state of full preparedness. "Today's meeting has ended a stage of stagnation and inactivity."

Asked whether military coordination was among the topics discussed by Al-Asad and 'Arafat, he replied: "This is inevitable and is dictated by the responsibilities of joint action, particularly since the Israeli threats and buildup have reached their peak."

He added: "The two sides (Syria and the PLO) have no choice but to strengthen coordination, particularly on the military level, because of the circumstances surrounding them."

'Abd Rabbuh Views Coordination

JN041814 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1800 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] In Damascus Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, assistant secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, has stated that the PLO command will meet soon with Syrian officials to coordinate more closely between the two sides. 'Abd Rabbuh said that the two sides agreed to form a joint committee to coordinate between Syria and the PLO on the political levels and for practical purposes.

Monte Carlo: 'Arafat, Syria's Rif'at al-Asad Meet

JN042014 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 2000 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] In Damascus PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat this afternoon met with Rif'at al-Asad, commander of the Syrian defense squads. According to an official statement, during the meeting, which was attended by Khalil al-Wazir, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, the two sides discussed bilateral relations and the current situation in the Middle East and in the Palestinian arena. The statement added that the two sides stressed the need to hold similar meetings in the future.

PLO Radio: 'Arafat Presides Over Meeting in Damascus

JN041726 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] Leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has presided over a meeting in Damascus in the presence of PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum and a number of the secretaries and representatives of the Palestinian resistance factions.

Our correspondent has learned that the conferees comprehensively reviewed various Arab issues in light of recent contacts between the PLO and Arab leaders. They also discussed the military situation and a special committee's report on this as well as the Israeli threats to launch a new aggression.

KUNA: Qaddumi Views UN, U.S. Plan, 'Arafat Support

LD042122 Kuwait KUNA in English 1850 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, May 4 (KUNA) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation is of the opinion that going back to the United Nations could be one of the ways to seek a political settlement to the Palestine problem, its foreign minister Faruq Qaddumi said Wednesday. He told a press conference here that the U.N. in particular could be used as a vehicle to supervise the withdrawal of Israeli forces from all occupied territories as a prelude to a negotiated settlement. Qaddumi was responding to a question on Malaysia's current efforts to get international support to refer the Palestine question to the world body with a specific reference to the 1947 Resolution 181 (11) which provided for the partition of Palestine. He said: "We have not lost our confidence in the U.N. We still support the U.N. although it had failed to implement the 1947 resolution for the creation of an independent state of Palestine."

Qaddumi, who is also the chairman of the PLO's political bureau, said that as of now, his organization was more in favour of the Fes plan formulated by the Arab heads of government in their summit meeting in Morocco last September. "In fact, we are ready to negotiate for settlement on the basis of this plan," he stressed.

He said the current impasse on peace negotiations between PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and Jordanian King Husayn was due to the United States' failure to apply pressure on Israel and the U.S. non-recognition of the PLO representation. "They want the Palestinians and other Arabs to go for the talks but King Husayn wants to go with us in accordance with the Fes plan," he explained.

Qaddumi denied reports from Western agencies that the talks were stalled by the radical elements within the PLO who wanted 'Arafat to adopt a tougher stance. He said 'Arafat enjoyed overwhelming support from the entire members of the PLO Executive Committee and what he was doing now was strictly in accordance with the resolutions adopted by the last meeting in Algiers of the Palestine National Council (parliament). "I like to reassure you here that Chairman 'Arafat is still the chairman of the PLO. He has been accused of being a moderate. Can you imagine a person who was the first to carry a gun to fight the Israelis being a moderate?" he asked.

On the Asian regional conference on the question of Palestine being held here, Qaddumi said it would contribute positively in helping to garner greater international support for the Palestinian cause. It would also reinforce and reaffirm the various U.N. resolutions pertaining to the problem, he said.

Earlier, he reiterated his organisation's outright rejection of the Reagan plan and described it as a "surrender plan" rather than a peace plan. He also accused the super powers of working "for another war" in West Asia instead of searching for a peace settlement. He said the situation in West Asia had been deteriorated by big power manipulations which would inevitably lead to another war.

Farther on Moscow Statement by PFLP's Habash

JN040910 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] Moscow — PFLP Secretary General Dr George Habash has asserted that Syria has clearly defined its option and course. Syria's option, he said, is not the U.S. course, as imperialism and Zionism have planned, but a (?stronger) political position and a principled and firm Syrian determination to confront the U.S. plan against the whole Arab region. In a statement to the SANA correspondent in Moscow, he said Syria fully understands the new political and military situation which resulted from Israel's invasion of Lebanon and its aftermath. Dr Habash clarified that the U.S. pressure on the Palestinian revolution and Syria through certain reactionary Arab regimes has failed. Consequently, the United States has begun looking for new ways to apply political and military pressures. Therefore it began preparing and planning for a new aggression in which it will use Israel as the tool for implementation. This explains the mounting Zionist threats, provocations, and military concentrations against Syria to apply military pressure on the Arab state which is confronting aggression and aggressive U.S. plots.

The Palestinian official referred to the continued Syrian- Palestinian alliance serving the central Arab issue and said: Our alliance with Syria represents the main link in confronting these plots. This link could serve as the focus of the bigger link, represented by the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front and Arab solidarity against Zionism, imperialism, and their agents.

Speaking about the PLO's view of the current phase and the threats against Syria, the Palestinian official said: The resolutions adopted by the PNC in Algeria have affirmed the closing of all doors and windows in the face of the Reagan plan and the necessity of rejecting any dealing with this plan's supporters, whether they are Arab or foreign governments. Concluding his statement, Dr George Habash asserted that the Palestinian revolution will continue its course until it achieves victory. It will depend in its struggle on the support of Syria and of the friendly socialist bloc countries headed by the USSR.

WAFA Warns Against Israeli-U.S. Aggression

GF050700 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0540 GMT 5 May 83

[Text] Tunis, 4 May (WAKH) — The Palestinian News Agency, WAFA, has warned that the Zionist enemy and the United States are planning to launch a new aggression against the Palestinian and Syrian forces (?in an attempt) to change the political map of the region. In a commentary today, WAFA said this aggression will pose a clear threat to the Arab countries because the United States and Israel want to make the Middle East an area of their influence. The agency provided evidence of such intentions in the remarks made by Zionist minister of state Ari'el Sharon, who admitted the possibility of such aggression. The agency commented by saying that the statements by Sharon — who planned the invasion of Lebanon and all crimes perpetrated there, including devastating the refugee camps and the Lebanese villages as well as the Sabra and Shatila camps — are a big indication of this.

KUWAIT

Japanese Minister Discusses Oil Slick Problem

LD041151 Kuwait KUNA in English 1002 GMT 4 May 83

[By Khalid Al-Tarrah]

[Text] Kuwait, May 4 (KUNA) — A temporary cease fire to the 31-month Iranian-Iraqi war "is very necessary, in order to offer help in combating the oil slick" leaking from Iranian oil wells in the Nowruz field, Japan's International Trade and Industry Minister Sadanori Yamanaka said here Wednesday.

In a press conference, Yamanaka noted that Japan is willing to help in pumping out the oil slick from the Gulf waters, only if the disputing countries of Iraq and Iran agreed on temporary cease fire. Japan is also ready to assist in extinguishing the blaze of two Iraqi-bombed Iranian oil wells, the minister stressed.

The visiting minister met with H.H. the amir, Crown Prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah, and Minister of Oil Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah. Both sides discussed issues related to ways of combating the oil slick threatening the Gulf coasts.

Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) representative to Tokyo Badr Khalifah al-Jassim pointed out that "Japan has prepared technical reports on ways to fight the oil slick." Japan is ready to proceed with the operation of pumping out the oil slick from the Gulf waters, if Iran and Iraq agreed on temporary cease fire, Al-Jassim said.

Yamanaka said that he had come to Kuwait "without a specific agenda," pointing out that the trip was made on friendly bases at instructions of the Japanese Prime Minister Yashiro Nakasone.

Yamanaka said he was impressed by Kuwait's modern construction of highways and prosperity. The visiting minister also discussed with Kuwaiti officials topics related to the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

Speaking on OPEC, Yamanaka stressd that the current 5-dollar oil price reduction is "a great advantage for Japan," pointing out that Japan is an oil consumer, since it does not have national resources. However, the minister said, "We do not know how long this price stability will continue." Yamanaka also hailed Japan's relations with Kuwait and other Gulf states.

"This current visit also aims at fostering bilateral relations between Kuwait and Japan," Yamanaka announced. He said the tour, which also took him to the United Arab Emirates, comes within the frame of "repaying favors of the oil producing countries."

The Japanese official arrived here Monday night from Abu Dhabi on a two-day official visit to the country.

The minister also discussed with UAE officials issues related to latest developments of the oil slick crisis. He also reviewed possible ways for his country to contribute in combating the resulting pollution of Gulf waters. The Japanese official elaborated that his country had a practical experience in combating oil spills at least one of which has occured in Japan. "We have technical reports and data in addition to our experience which could be used in fighting the oil slick," the minister added.

The minister disclosed that Iran, in an apparent effort to stimulate clients for its oil, is offering tankers a two-dollar discount per barrel to encourage the shipment to Japan across Gulf waters. However, Yamanaka noted, such rebates are going to "others pockets" and does not play any part in the Japanese economy cycle. Yamanaka is to leave Kuwait for Paris later in the day Wednesday for a scheduled meeting of the European Economic Community (EEC).

SAUDI ARABIA

AL-YAM Urges Arab Support for Lebanon Peace

LD041306 Riyadh SPA in English 1212 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] Riyadh, May 4, SPA — The Arabs should not be over optimistic with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz statements in which he noted some progress in negotiations on Israeli troops withdrawal from Lebanon and the prospects of an imminent accord on the issue, the Jidda-based AL-YAM said here today.

"We have found that Shultz statements are assuring a near breakthrough in the deadlock at a time when Zionist leaders speak about more differences in the course of the tripartite negotiations," the paper said. It added that Israeli leaders statements would "kill any glimpse of hope to reach an end to the Lebanese crisis. We should note the mentality of the Israeli negotiaters who stick to trifle matters and always try to obstruct the negotiations", the paper said.

The paper said if the Arabs were interested in realising a just and lasting peace in Lebanon, then they should support Lebanon economically, militarily and politically so that it could stand firmly against Zionist challenges. "The Arabs should exert more pressure on the U.S. which in turn can force Israel to rescind its perversion and atrocities in the region," it added.

The paper reaffirmed that no peace in the region could be achieved unless the recovery of Arab usurped rights.

AL-JAZIRAH Views Optimism Over Shultz' Success

GF050532 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 5 May 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Regarding the shuttle trips U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz is making between Lebanon and occupied Palestine, the newspaper AL-JAZIRAH said: Despite the reservations of some Lebanese and American officials on the partial agreement reached on some of the basic issues between Lebanon and the Israeli enemy, optimism has appeared in regard to Shultz' shuttle

trips because of his remark that Israel will probably begin to withdraw from Lebanon before Sunday.

The newspaper continued: This important partial agreement is the first step in achieving the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon. It is commendable and a cause for optimism since there is a possibility of reaching a comprehensive agreement on the areas of difference. At the same time, the newspaper warned against an Israeli treachery that will probably take place at a time of optimism in Lebanon, because Israel's nature is to be treacherous; the nature of its policy is aggressive, and the nature of its goals is expansionism and achieving illegal gains at the expense of the legitimate rights of others.

In this regard, the newspaper referred to the [words indistinct] of Lebanon and Al-Biqa' where Israel has amassed, and is still amassing, [word indistinct] and strike forces along the confrontation line between them and the Syrian forces there.

PDRY

YSP Central Committee Issues Press Statement

GF041911 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 4 May 83

[Excerpts] The YSP Central Committee has highly evaluated the persistent efforts exerted by workers in the workshops and factories in various labor and production locations, the agricultural workers on the country's farms, the farmers in the cooperatives, the intellectuals, the members of the Armed Forces, and the (?security institutions) in all locations, in order to defend the country's sovereignty, security, and stability.

In a press statement published at the conclusion of its ninth periodic session yesterday, the committee expressed its satisfaction with and high appreciation for the successes achieved in various work, production, educational, and national defense locations, as well as for the current preparations to welcome the 20th anniversary of the glorious 14th October Revolution.

The YSP Central Committee stressed the importance of the efforts being exerted by our country to strengthen cooperation and coordination between our country and the Arab regimes and national and progressive forces, and to bolster solidarity with the struggle of the Arab Palestinian people in order to achieve their right to return to their homeland, achieve self-determination, and establish their independent state under the leadership of the PLO.

The Central Committee also expressed its satisfaction for the positive results of 'Ali Nasir Muhammad's visit to Algeria, Libya, and Syria, as well as for the contacts, meetings, and negotiations that were held with the leaders of various factions of the Palestinian revolution and the Arab national liberation movement during the period between sessions of the Central Committee.

The press statement of the YSP Central Committee pointed out the current circumstances in the Arab arena, which are characterized by a strong complication, because the imperialist and Zionist powers are conspiring against our Arab peoples' issues, foremost of which is the Palestinian issue. The Central Committee said that this issue involves our Arab people's supreme interests, and those who abandon the legitimate rights of our Arab peoples, foremost of which are the rights of the Palestinian people, should not be tolerated.

The YSP Central Committee expressed its satisfaction over the results of the PNC's 16th session, which formed an effective basis for strengthening Palestinian national unity.

The statement reaffirmed the YSP Central Committee's total and unlimited solidarity with steadfast Syria, which is being threatened by Israeli aggression — supported by the United States — which aims to strike at Syria's national leadership, weaken its steadfastness, and open the way for the implementation of the conspiratorial Reagan plan — which is an extention of the Camp David accords and other capitulation and liquidation plans that were rejected by our Arab peoples.

In its press statement issued following its ninth periodic session, the Central Committee affirmed the vital importance of the struggle to preserve international peace. The Central Committee expressed its support for the various peace initiatives that have been presented by the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact countries that embody the concern for fortifying bases of peace and stability in the world, and protecting the achievements of modern civilization.

Supreme People's Council Session Begins 4 May

GF050520 Aden ANA in Arabic 1700 GMT 4 May 83

[Excerpts] Aden, 4 May (ANA) — The Supreme People's Council began its 14th session this morning under the chairmanship of Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers.

At the beginning of the session, Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad presented the political report that is being submitted to the session which covers all the activities of the council, in various fields, during the period between the two sessions. The report praised the efforts that were exerted on the internal level to ensure the accurate performance of the state's bodies and departments and to develop their roles, and to implement the projects of the third year of the second 5-year plan. The chairman explained the field visits that were made by the state leaders to the ministries, and their departments, and to the establishments of the public sector, cooperative sector, provinces, popular organizations, and universities, and indicated that these visits provided the opportunity to learn of the concerns and problems of the state bodies and to see the positive aspects of their activities.

He also expressed satisfaction for the pledge made by the Yemeni labor class to enter the front of production competition in all fields of work and production in order to fulfill the economic development plans.

Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad also reviewed in his report the measures and resolutions that are aimed at improving the econ-

omy and following up what the sectors have accomplished with the projects in their plans. He also reviewed the resolutions to follow up the estimated budget of the public sector for the year 1983, and the measures that were adopted by the government in order to reduce the expenses of some projects in order to face the hardships that resulted from external funding, to remedy the natural damages caused by floods and rain, and (?to implement) the agreements that were signed in order to repair the damages inflicted on roads, bridges, and dams.

Regarding the question of Yemeni unity, the report indicated that the period between the two council sessions witnessed a continuation of coordination and joint activities between the two halves of the homeland on numerous political, economic, and social issues that are of interest to our Yemeni people.

The report recalled the exchanged visits and contacts between the two halves, and the current measures adopted to develop the role of joint companies in the Yemeni economic life. The report also mentionedthe preparation for convening a meeting of the Yemeni coordination council in the upcoming stage in order to discuss a number of issues that are of interest to our Yemeni people and their national unity.

The report noted our country's political moves in the peninsula and Gulf region as part of the efforts that are aimed at enhancing stability in the region. It noted the exchange of delegations and visits with the region's countries and the official talks that were held between our country and the Sultanate of Oman, with regard to the normalization of relations and solving border problems in accordance with the agreement of principles with the Sultanate of Oman.

The report dealt with the role that some imperialist and reactionary circles are performing in order to undermine the agreement of principles. Their aim is to maintain a tense atmosphere between the two countries, and utilize this situation to serve their policies, which are hostile to stability and security in the region. Their vehement activity is used to escalate tension points and bolster their military presence by reinforcing their forces and military facilties, and by holding military maneuvers of the Rapid Deployment Force, such as the ones that took place recently in the Sultanate of Oman.

The report also dealt with the situation in the Horn of Africa, and noted the expansion of the U.S. military bases in Somalia, Sudan, and Kenya with the aim of tightening the grip around the progressive regimes of national liberation, such as our country and Ethiopia, and with the aim of using repressive forces against the progressive powers in the region's countries.

The political report, which is submitted by the chairman of the Presidium, noted the intense efforts that were exerted by our country and which are represented in the visits made to the member-states of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front: Syria, Libya, and Algeria. The results of the visits have contributed, to a large extent, in creating better conditions for the front's political role in confronting the dangerous imperialist influence and in consulting and coordinating with the other progressive regimes with the aim of widening the front of hostility towards imperialism.

Pertaining to the Middle East situation, the report noted that the situation continues to deteriorate and explained that the Zionist occupants, who are still in Lebanon, continue to practice the policy of pressure and blackmail with the support of the United States of America — which attempts to impose ridiculous solutions on the Middle East through the initiative of its president, Reagan, and at the expense of the Palestinian question, which is the essence of the Middle East crisis. Some Arab reactionary regimes attempt, on the basis of this initiative, to contain the Fes summit plan and to promote and publicize for the Reagan initiative.

The report added that in order to prevent the new development in the Middle East question from proceeding in the direction of benefiting the Zionist occupants and U.S. imperialism, our country held intensive contacts with the Palestinian revolution groups and participated in the meetings of the PNC that was held in Algiers.

Our country expressed its principled support and aid to the Palestinian question, and acquired the support and appreciation of the forces of the Palestinian resistance.

He added that our country will continue to adhere to this policy until the Palestinian people gain all their legitimate rights to return to their home, to self determination, and to establish their independent state under the leadership of the PLO, their sole, legitimate representative.

He also referred to our country's relations with socialist countries and the joint stands adopted with them on international issues such as disarmament, reinforcement of peace, and our country's support for the proposals made by the Soviet Union regarding international peace and easing international tension.

UAE

British Energy Minister Arrives For Talks 4 May

GF050644 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0605 GMT 5 May 83

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 4 May (WAKH) — Nigel Lawson, British secretary of state for energy, arrived here last night on a visit to the UAE during a tour of a number of countries in the region that has so far taken him to Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.

The British minister said he will hold talks with Dr Man'i Sa'id al-'Utaybah, minister of petroleum and natural resources, to complete the talks that he held with him in London recently to exchange views and discuss the oil market in view of OPEC'S recent agreement on prices and production shares.

The British minister expressed his optimism over the future of the oil market and said if all act responsibly at present, the price set by OPEC will continue to prevail.

The British minister described the oil market situation as better than it was during the London meeting. Referring to the talks he held with Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah as-Sabah, Kuwaiti minister of oil affairs, and Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, Saudi minister of petroleum and mineral affairs, he described them as amicable.

Mubarak Opens Islamic Museum, Meets Jurists
NC041234 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] President Husni Mubarak today inaugurated the Islamic Art Museum, following its recently completed expansion. The president, who arrived the museum at 0930, was welcomed by Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din, Grand Shaykh of al-Azhar Jad al-Haq 'Ali Jad al-Haq, Minister of Awqaf Shaykh Ibrahim ad-Dusuqi, Minister of Culture Muhammad 'Abd al-Hamid Radwan and Cairo Governor Yusuf Sabri Abu Talib.

The museum, which was developed at a cost of 600,000 pounds, contains 80,000 unique pieces of art dating from the beginning of Islam to the end of the Ottoman era. The president inspected the various halls of the museum and listened to an explanation of the exhibits.

After concluding his visit to the Islamic Art Museum, President Mubarak paid a surprise visit to Egypt's Court [Mahkamat Misr] in Bab al-Khalq [a quarter of Cairo]. He met with the court's counselors. The meeting was attended by Minister of Justice Counselor Ahmad Mamduh 'Atiyah. The president explained the dimensions of the domestic and foreign situation to the counsellors.

Mubarak Meets With Jewish Conference Official
NC041236 Cairo MENA in English 1208 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] Cairo, May 4 (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak met today at Al-'Urubah Palace with Chairman of the World Jewish Conference Howard North, who arrived here earlier today. North described later his 75-minute meeting with the president as good, friendly, and cordial.

He said the president had briefed him on a number of issues. He denied having conveyed any message to President Mubarak, adding that his visit to Egypt was a private one.

North also expressed optimism over the possibility of reaching an agreement on the withdrawal of Israeli forces' from Lebanon.

On Egyptian-Israeli relations, the chairman of the World Jewish Conference said both countries are following a positive and right trend as regards their relations.

He voiced hope for these ties to prosper and for the return of the Egyptian ambassador to Israel to help achieve peace in the region.

'Ali Confers With PLO'S Sidqi ad-Dajani
NC041523 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali met this afternoon with PLO Executive Committee member Dr Ahmad Sidqi ad-Dajani.

One of our radio correspondents reports that a review was made of the developments in the Middle East and the efforts exerted to settle the Palestinian question. Views were exchanged on the current mission of the U.S. secretary of state to achieve Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon.

The meeting took place before Dr ad-Dajani left Cairo for Damascus.

PLO Envoy in Cairo Congratulates Mubarak
NC041130 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1055 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] Cairo, 4 May (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has received the following congratulatory cable from PLO representative in Cairo Zuhri al-Qudrah:

On my own behalf and on behalf of the sons of our Palestinian people in the Arab Republic of Egypt, I am pleased to convey to you the most sincere congratulations on the first anniversary of the recovery of Sinai.

We proudly appreciate Your Excellency's statements that the PLO is the sole representative . We also appreciate Your Excellency's statements on the right to self-determination and on the need for the PLO to participate in the peace process in its capacity as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

We invoke God to unify stands and marshal ranks. May God grant you success and guide your steps. We wish fraternal Egypt prestige, progress, and prosperity under your wise leadership.

Daily On Egyptian Stand in Support Of PLO
NC050705 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0425 GMT 5 May 83

[From the press review]

Text] In its editorial today, AL-AHRAM focuses on the noble stand Egypt has adopted in answer to President Reagan's recent statement. The paper describes this stand as diplomatic in its quickness and decisiveness. It points out that Egypt's stand was expressed in the presence of the U.S. secretary of state during his first meeting in Cairo with President Husni Mubarak and directly prior to his departure for Israel. Egypt emphasized that the PLO'S role in the peace process cannot be excluded, that the importance of this role cannot be belittled or disposed of and that there is absolutely no justification for the severe attack that President Reagan and Shultz made on the PLO.

AL-AHRAM says that if this attack continues and goes beyond the limit, it will constitute a serious change in the U.S. stand. President Reagan attacked the PLO and held the radicals among its members responsible for aborting an agreement with King Husayn. In his campaign, President Reagan reached the point of casting doubt on the PLO's official representative status and called for bypassing the PLO and going ahead with the peace talks without it. AL-AHRAM says that Egypt's rational stand emerged amidst excited emotions, calming down the general situation that began to flare up. Despite Egypt's reservations

about certain behavior by the PLO,particularly its statement during its latest conference in Tunis against Egyptian nationalism, Egypt has always drawn a dividing line between transient things and established facts and between rights and behavior. Thus, Egypt hastened to curb the U.S. policy which, under the influence of several circumstances, was driven toward a trend that might have led it to the point of no return. Through wisdom and justice, Egypt managed to prevent the U.S. side from harming itself and its role and did justice to the Palestinian side, despite the fact that it often does harm to itself, to its role as well as to others.

AL-AHRAM says that this noble stand, which is based on a realistic premise and practical policy, affirms time and again thatthe Egyptian strategy does not change according to passing amambitions, interests, or purposes and the pursuance of this policy is not subject to changeable emotions and sentiments. Egypt's stand is based on logic, right, justice, and pure selflessness, at the same time harboring a good desire for peace and security for all.

Envoy to U.S. Returns to Washington

NC041248 Cairo MENA in English 1105 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] Cairo, 4 May (MENA) — Egypt's Ambassador to the United States Dr. Ashraf Ghurbal, left today for Washington winding up a ten-day visit to Egypt.

Ghurbal took part in the talks held by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz in the Egyptian capital more than a week ago.

Communique: 23 Iranians Killed; Basra Shelled

JN041558 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1530 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] Baghdad, May (INA) — The Iraqi forces have killed 23 Iranians and destroyed 2 tanks, 2 vehicles, 2 106-mm guns, and 1 shelter, the occupants of which were killed.

An Iraqi military communique issued here today on the 33d month of the Iraq-Iran war stated that during the past 24 hours, two hardware stockpiles, three observation posts, and one infantry position, the occupants of which were wounded, were destroyed in the operational theaters.

Communique No 1,081 stated that the Iranian forces shelled Basra and its outskirts, damaging one house. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,081 issued by the Armed Forces General Command. In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The war thatthe vicious enemy has imposed on our country and nation enters its 33d month today, and the sons of our people and the zealous sons of our Armed Forces pursue their valiant activities in the operational theaters in defense of the homeland, the people's dignity, and the country's independence. The results of the activities yesterday and today are as follows:

1. Our forward units struck an enemy troop concentration opposite their positions in the central sector of the battlefield with all types of weapons, killing 12, and destroying 2 vehicles, 2 106-mm guns, 1 shelter, the occupants of which were killed, 1 hardware stockpile, and 1 observation post.

2. One of our forward units shelled an enemy troop concentration opposite its positions in the Maysan operational theater, killing six and destroying one hardware stockpile and two observation posts.

3. Five were killed and one tank, one vehicle, and one infantry position, the occupants of which were wounded, were destroyed in the northern sector of the battlefield.

4. One tank was destroyed after it was set on fire east of Basra.

5. The criminal Khomeyniite regime today shelled Basra and its outskirts, damaging one house in the city.

[Singed] The Armed Forces General Command, 4 May 83

Iraqi Delegation Returns From IPU Conference

JN041245 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1050 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] Baghdad, 4 May (INA) — The Iraqi National Assembly delegation headed by Sa'd Qasim Hammudi, member of the assembly Foreign Relations Committee, returned here today from Helsinki after participating in the IPU spring meetings on 25 April.

In a statement INA, Hammudi said the delegation contributed effectively to the work of the specialized subcommittees in the meetings. He pointed out that the IPU political subcommittee issued a number of recommendations to strengthen the role of the United Nations in solving problems, ending wars and the arms race, and achieving nuclear disarmament. The recommendations also dealt with heated disputes such as the Iraqi-Iranian war, which was mentioned in the report by the UN secretary general.

Hammudi said that the IPU Council denounced the Zionist enemy's attack on the Iraqi Tammuz nuclear reactor, which was used for peaceful purposes, and the Tel Aviv rulers' crimes against the Palestinian people, Lebanon, and the Arab nation. The IPU Council decided to hold its 70th conference in South Korea in September.

The delegation of the Iraqi National Assembly held several meetings with the friendly, fraternal delegations attending the conference and coordinated with the delegations of Arab and nonaligned countries.

Romanian Transportation Delegation Arrives 5 May

JN050701 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0622 GMT 5 May 83

[Text] Baghdad, 5 May (INA) — (Alexandru Dobre), Romanian deputy minister of transportation and telecommunications, arrived in Baghdad today at the head of a technical delegation on a visit of several days.

(Dobre) said that he will hold talks with officials at the Ministry of Transport and Communications on bolstering the existing relations of cooperation between the two friendly countries and on the possibility of exchanging expertise in the field of transport and communications.

Reportage on Possible Agreement With Israel

Agreement 'Not Yet Reached'

NC041816 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 4 May 83

[Excerpts] The third plenary session of the U.S.-Lebanese talks was held at 0900 and ended at 1220. Secretary Shultz went to meet with President al-Jumayyil after the meeting. At the same time, the remaining members of the U.S. and Lebanese delegations held side meetings.

Minister Salim told foreign correspondents: We have not reached an agreement yet. However, we have given Secretary Shultz a clear stance on all the points raised over the proposed agreement. He knows exactly where he stands. It is not the first time that Lebanon has defined its stances, for we have defined them at least three times. Lebanon appreciates Secretary Shultz' efforts because Lebanon wants to liberate itself, and the U.S. initiative is the only tangible way to liberate Lebanon from occupation and to safeguard its safety and unity.

Minister Salim added: We are proud of what we are doing because we are working openly and we hope our efforts will lead to an agreement. We did not harm in any way whatsoever the basic principles we established since the very beginning — the principles which govern our relations with Israel within the framework of the agreement we are concerned with. The principles we declared previously are still the same. Our efforts with the Arab states have been continuing for 3 months. I repeat that we do not ask the Arab states' approval because we are a sovereign state. Every Arab state determines its affairs in light of its own interests. We go to the Arab states to coordinate with them, to familiarize them with our stands, and to obtain their advice because they are concerned with many matters.

Lebanon is an indivisible part of the Arab world. We have commitments toward this world and we do not want to harm in any way whatsoever our basic links with the Arab states. Therefore, we must constantly cooperate with them.

On his expectations over Syria's stand on the contents of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, he said: We in Lebanon are confident that Syria will support everything that serves Lebanon's higher interest.

Timetable for Withdrawal

NC041819 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] Informed Lebanese sources have declared that any agreement which will be reached will include a schedule for the comprehensive Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon according to specific dates extending from 8 to 10 weeks and in a way enabling the Lebanese state to prepare sufficient security forces to fill the vacuum which might be created. The government has been preparing sufficient forces for some time now to fill this vacuum.

The same sources added that the results of Shultz' visit to Syria on Saturday might draw up the real and final picture of the question of the withdrawal, which will enable the imposition of the state's authority on areas where there are no Israelis.

Shultz Leaves 4 May

NC041441 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1222 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] Regarding the talks that took place at B'abda Palace today, the editorial office is now going to talk to us directly:

[Begin telephone contact] In fact, U.S. Secretary George Shultz left B'abda Palace at 1413 for the airport, from where he will go to Israel to inform the officials in Tel Aviv of the Lebanese views on the points that are still pending. Following the conclusion of the talks with President al-Jumayyil and state leaders, which lasted several hours, Shultz described the results of the meetings as constructive, affirming that Lebanon defined its stand in a clear manner. The U.S. secretary did not wish to confirm whether he will return to Beirut.

Afterward Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim spoke. He recalled the basic principles on the basis of which the Lebanese negotiator acted and from which he cannot deviate. Minister Salim stressed the importance of Lebanon's relations with the Arab states.

Finally, Prime Minister al-Wazzan spoke about the results of the talks, emphasizing Lebanon's firm stand. We will furnish our honorable listeners with more details as soon as we have them. [end telephone contact]

Cabinet Briefed

NC041930 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 4 May 83

[Excerpt] The weekly Cabinet session ended at 2020. The session was chaired by President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil and attended by Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and the ministers.

At the outset Prime Minister al-Wazzan and Foreign Minister Salim briefed the Cabinet on the intensive talks which took place recently between Lebanon and the U.S. side, headed by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, and Shultz' talks with the Israeli side.

Secretary Shultz is expected to return to Beirut on Friday and will then visit Damascus.

Moreover, Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim briefed the Cabinet on the result of his recent visit to Damascus.

Further on Cabinet Meeting

NC042225 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] In its weekly session tonight, the Cabinet suggested a draft resolution on extending the term of the Chamber of Deputies. The ministers of justice and interior were entrusted with preparing this draft resolution.

The Cabinet also decided to hold continuous working sessions for several days as of Friday afternoon in order to accelerate the implementation of the constitutional decisions that the government was authorized to carry out within the framework of the government's previously attained extraordinary powers.

Al-Wazzan Comments on Talks with Shultz
NC041429 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1235 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] We will now listen to Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan commenting on the Lebanese-U.S. talks and the progress they have made thus far. Prime Minister al-Wazzan said:

[Begin recording] In the wake of the intensive efforts made during the past period and during the past 2 days, we feel that we now have more than at any time before a beneficial understanding on most of the disputed points. There is no doubt that the understanding the U.S. side has shown of the Lebanese stand, which is a genuine stand through our adherence to the basic and real principles of our national sovereignty, has had the effect of pushing matters forward.

The U.S. side is now aware of all the Lebanese requests and of all the limits to which Lebanon can go. From now on, it should not in any way be ascribed to us that we are the cause of any delay in these exforts producing positive results. Either there will be rightful and just stand or not. The stand Lebanon is adhering to makes it incumbent upon everyone who believes in the principles of the United Nations, the principles of justice, and the values of democracy and freedom to support Lebanon so that Lebanon will achieve its demands, because by achieving its demands, Lebanon will be achieving the goals we have always been seeking — the establishment of justice, the removal of the injustices done to peoples, and work for world peace. It is our right to work for our own peace in our homeland, Lebanon, and in the area.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] The pending points are in fact not between us and the U.S. side. They are between us and the Israeli side. The U.S. side now has our final stand and on the basis of this stand action must take place.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, the U.S. side was supposed to define its stand in these negotiations. Has it defined it, and what kind of progress has been made?

[Answer] We are not in a position at this stage to say what kind of progress has been made, because we are still regarded to be negotiating even though the phase has become semifinal. I say semifinal because we have final Lebanese stands. Basically, we have no demand on Israel other than for it to leave our territory. Our demand is plain and simple; it is neither dubious nor ambiguous, and it does not tolerate interpretation. As for the demands that are of the conditional type, they come from the Israeli side.

Therefore, the Israeli side must remove its conditions in such a way that will neither detract from the sovereignty of our state nor make it helpless in the eyes of the world, especially in the eyes of the United States. [end recording]

Salim Comments on Talks With Shultz 4 May
NC041635 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 4 May 83

[Excerpts] U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz arrived in Israel this afternoon at the end of a long session of talks in Beirut — the last being a meeting with President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil, during which the topics and items on the agenda and the pending points were evaluated.

Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim recalled the basic principles on whose basis the Lebanese negotiator acts and from which Lebanon cannot deviate, stressing that no agreement had been reached because there are differences in viewpoints. Minister Salim said:

[Begin recording in English] I just want to thank Mr Shultz for his very intensive efforts with us and with Israel in an attempt to reach an agreement. [words indistinct] We have given Mr Shultz a clear statement on all the points raised in the proposed agreement. He knows exactly where we stand. This is not the first time Lebanon does this. Lebanon did that at least three times before. There were conflicts of views. There are sharp differences [words indistinct]. [end recording]

Salim emphasized the importance of Lebanon's relations with the Arab states, affirming that Lebanon will not take any measure that will harm the Arab states. The foreign minister reiterated his remarks made yesterday that Shultz was optimistic because he is American but that he, namely Salim, was more realistic because he is an Oriental. Salim described the U.S. secretary's (?style) as convincing, adding that if any agreement is reached the credit will go to Shultz' diplomacy. The head of Lebanese diplomacy expressed his appreciation for Shultz' efforts and said the U.S. initiative was the only practical and tangible attempt to get the foreigners out of Lebanon and to actually preserve full control and sovereignty in Lebanon.

Minister Salim concluded by saying: If our proposals are accepted in Israel, then we will be on the road to a solution. We in Lebanon believe anything in Lebanon's interest will be supported by the Arabs.

Franjiyah Discusses Shultz Mission
NC041118 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 0730 GMT 4 May 83

[Report on press conference held by former President Sulayman Franjiyah at his palace in Zgharta on 3 May — read by announcer]

[Excerpts] The first question was: Mr. President. Observers have given great importance to the U.S. Secretary of State's visit to the area while some observers expressed doubts that his mission will succeed in the wake of the Israeli intransigence. Do you expect some success to be achieved in the interest of the Lebanese cause?

President Franjiyah replied: Yesterday, we heard his excellency the foreign minister of fraternal Syria reiterate what he had heard from Mr Shultz who expressed surprise that the negotiations were being held under the specter of the rifle. This stand that was declared by Minister Khaddam [Syrian foreign minister] is a sound stand by international standards. However, now that he [Shultz] has been kind enough to come to us, we wonder what the purpose of his visit is. A few days ago, his President Reagan stated that he will act to restore the situation in Lebanon to normal. This infuriated the officials in the enemy state [Israel]. Recently, I have been having a feeling that the U.S. enthusiasm has begun to diminish. Despite the general belief, I do not think that Shultz' visit will be in the interest of Lebanon, especially because Shultz' country has allocated in its next budget for Israel more of the U.S. people's money than it had in the past. Therefore, how can we expect anything good with the situation being what it is today? The good we obtained has naturally been the destruction of an area of Lebanon. As for the situation in the mountain, every time the one who is not loved [Philip Habib] visited Lebanon, Israel used to trigger the situation in the mountain to prove its false claim that it came to Lebanon to protect the Christians in it. The same thing is being repeated every time Shultz visit, exactly as is happening this very day. Therefore, we must realize that the only one who benefits from what is happening in the mountain is Israel and that Israel is the one which plans it, because if Israel was not satisfied with what is happening, it could have at least confiscated the heavy weapons, whose positions cannot be concealed in view of the boom they make.

Question: Mr President. Can the government adopt a specific stand in light of your statement that there will be no benefit for Lebanon from Shultz' tour in the area and what stand should the government adopt and what stand do you wish it to adopt?

President Franjiyah replied: As to what Lebanon can do, the government can only adopt one stand namely, stop the negotiations completely. As long as the negotiations are going on, what will prevent terrorist Begin from telling Shultz or even his President Reagan: Mr Reagan, do not be more monarchal than the monarch. I am negotiating with Lebanon, so allow me to continue with the negotiations, perhaps we will be able to gain something.

Question: Mr President. In light of what you have said, when, in your opinion, do you wish the president of the republic to announce a specific stand regarding all that is taking place?

President Franjiyah replied: In such cases, a stand must be taken in the Cabinet. The stand that I wish to be taken is to halt the negotiations after Shultz visit if Shultz does not succeed in his declared mission.

Question: Supposing Shultz's mission fails, do you, Mr President, expect an explosion to take place on the domestic fronts or a confrontation between Syria and Israel?

President Franjiyah replied: It is possible that explosions will take place on the domestic fronts. The ones who would cause these explosions would only be Israel's agents. As for an explosion between fraternal Syria and the Israeli enemy, I rule it out because Israel is aware of Syria's present military might. On this occasion, I would like to draw the attention of the Lebanese and Arab public opinion to the U.S. statements that are being made daily, the latest of which was made yesterday, protesting the alleged Soviet presence in fraternal Syria. The United States has guaranteed and continues to guarantee the Israeli entity which in the view of the United States, has had up to now no borders. This is a humanitarian act. But for fraternal Syria to deal with the Soviet Union so as to be able, by means of Soviet weapons, to defend itself, this is a hostile act in the eyes of the Americans. Where is the logic in this? May God have mercy on the one who said that the American people think with their ears to give rest to their brains. Thinking with the ears leads only to ruination, naturally outside the United States.

Fahd To Be Briefed On Talks With Shultz
NC041838 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English 1745 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] Lebanese Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Nasir al-Hasan and Brigadier 'Abbas Hamdan, member of the Lebanese negotiating team, have left Beirut this afternoon for Riyadh. They have been charged by President Amin al-Jumayyil to brief King Fahd of Saudi Arabia on the outcome of the recent talks with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

VOH on Al-Asad's Alleged Conditions For Withdrawal
NC050717 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 0600 GMT 5 May 83

[Text] In Syria, a source very close to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad said that President Al-Asad will ask from King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, in return for the withdrawal from Lebanon, a sum of $10 billion provided that the amount is deposited in an American bank to Al-Asad's personal account. He will also ask for the right to receive 25 percent of the profits of the hashish produced in Lebanon by his brother Rif'at Al-Asad, for a period of 10 years.

The United States will be asked to ensure the right of political asylum to Hafiz al-Asad and his retinue should he be forced to flee from Syria.

Al-Jumayyil Meets Kuwaiti Press Delegation
NC050806 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 5 May 83

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil met with the Kuwaiti press delegation in the presence of Kuwaiti Ambassador to Lebanon 'Abd al-Hamid al-Bu'ayjan, Information Ministry Director General Dr Manaf Mansur, and press and editors' doyens Muhammad al-Ba'labakki and Milhim Karam.

President al-Jumayyil reviewed the real situation in the Lebanese arena. Al-Jumayyil spoke about the internal reconstruction at all the national, military, security, political, administrative, and development levels and about the stages and progress of the negotiations.

President al-Jumayyil emphasized the fundamental principles

which the government adheres to, namely that nothing should affect national sovereignty, national unity, and the relations of cooperation and solidarity between Lebanon and the Arabs.

The Kuwaiti press delegation also met with Chamber of Deputies Speaker Kamil al-As'ad.

The delegation then left for Kuwait, concluding a visit to Lebanon at the invitation of the Lebanese Ministry of Information. During the visit, the delegation met with senior Lebanese officials and acquainted itself with the Lebanese situation.

Al-Jumayyil Meets With Mufti Khalid 5 May

NC051053 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 5 May 83

[Text] In a surprise gesture, at 1105 today President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil visited His Eminence Shaykh Hasan Khalid, the mufti of the republic, at Al-Fatwah house. The visit lasted about 45 minutes.

The president was welcomed along the roads leading to Al-Fatwah house by a large crowd of people in the area. President al-Jumayyil asked his aides to give way and he started shaking hands with individuals.

At Al-Fatwah house, in addition to Mufti Khalid, President al-Jumayyil was welcomed by several religious men and Muslim ulema.

Marine Commander's Helicopter Hit, No One Injured

NC051412 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 5 May 83

[Text] A spokesman for the U.S. Marines said today that a helicopter carrying forces commander Colonel James Mead was hit by machinegun fire outside Beirut today but that no one was hurt.

Col James [Mead] was carrying out a reconnaissance mission after shells started pouring on Beirut.

The spokesman said that three bullets pierced the helicopter.

Two Reported Killed in 5 May Beirut Shelling

NC051125 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1117 GMT 5 May 83

[Text] Security sources reported a short while ago that two people were killed and seven others were wounded as a result of shells falling in several areas in the capital.

The sources said that the wounded are in the Hotel Dieu hospital and that one wounded, Marwan Mamluk, was removed to the Al-Maqasid al-Islamiyah hospital.

2 Killed, 7 Injured

NC051238 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 1130 GMT 5 May 83

[Text] On the security level, a sudden setback occurred today in the mountain, Beirut, and Tripoli. At 1145 , over 10 120-mm mortar shells fell in Beirut indiscriminately. The shells fell in the areas of Hayy as-Siryan, Hotel Dieu, Hursh Thabit, Sinn al-Fil, Shatila, At-Tahwitah, and the hippodrome. According to preliminary security reports, two persons were killed and seven others were injured. The injured have been removed to Hotel Dieu and Al-Maqasid [hospitals].

Reports from Ash-Shuf say that caution prevails in the area in view of the continuing intermittent clashes which started at 1000 today. At noon today, the sound of explosions was heard in the towns of Ad-Dubbiyah, 'Ayn al-Hawr, Bkhistay, Al-Burjayn, Wadi Bnahlay, B'aqlin, Sirjbal, and Al-Jahiliyah. The security situation in the town of 'Alayh has also become tense. The roads there are perilous and deserted. The schools have beenclosed and the students have been sent home.

Meanwhile, the fate of the persons who were kidnapped on the Khaldah triangle is still unknown despite the intensive contacts that are taking place at the various levels to secure their release.

In the area of Al-Qubbah in Tripoli, the security situation erupted anew at 1230 today. Many projectiles have fallen on the area. Caution prevails in the area because of the sniper fire which was resumed at 1000 today.

Within the context of dealing with the situation, the northern coordination body met this morning at the house of [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami to study the situation and calm it. As a result of the meeting, the body asked the security committee, which includes some members of the coordination body, to meet with Brigadier General Sulayman 'Izzat of the Arab Deterrent Forces to brief him on the results reached by the conferees with a view to putting an end to the deteriorating situation in the area of Al-Qubbah.

In the area of Al-Biqa', the Israelis and Syrians are continuing to reinforce their positions in a manner that arouses anxiety, especially because the magnitude of the reinforcements portends a dangerous future phase. At 1030 today, Israeli forces closed the main road in Al-Fawwarah area that leads to B'aqlin in Bayt ad-Din and prevented cars from using it. Security sources have reported that several artillery shells have casualties have been reported, but the security situation there is tense.

Forces Command Statement on Security Situation

NC051348 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] The Lebanese Forces command has issued the following statement:

The eruption of the security situation in the manner in which it took place at noon today, an eruption which was aimed at greater Beirut in particular, and the timing of this eruption simultaneous

with statements by the U.S. Secretary of State on the approach of an agreement between Lebanon and Israel means that Syria has begun to implement the impossible conditions on Lebanon which it announced during the Lebanese foreign minister's visit to Damascus. Through military operations, Syria is trying to prevent the achievement of such an agreement and consequently striking at the salvation process.

Syria is using the Socialists and the areas under its occupation in Upper al-Matn to implement its goals. Therefore, the Lebanese Forces calls on the inhabitants of the areas of Upper al-Matn, Ash-Shuf, and 'Alayh — particularly on the Druze among them — to prevent the Syrians and the Socialist Party from using these areas as a springboard for their attacks.

The Lebanese forces are exercising self-control and will not be pushed to shelling these areas, but they find themselves compelled to shell the sources of fire in order to silence them and to prevent causing innocent victims.

VOL Blames Socialists for Beirut Shelling

NC051402 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 5 May 83

[Text] Whenever there is talk about an agreement for the withdrawal of the foreign forces from Lebanon, the socialist gunmen and their collaborators in the mountain area resort to sabotaging the security situation unexpectedly. Today, they resorted to indiscriminate shelling in every direction, which resulted in severalvictims.

According to preliminary information, two persons have been killed and a number of others injured. The aggression by shelling involved the suburbs of the capital. Shells fell in the areas of Ad-Dawrah, Ad-Dikwanah, Sinn al-Fil, Nahr al-Mawt, Al-Fayyadiyah, the vicinity of Al-Ashrafiyah, Ra's an-Nab', Al-Hadath, At-Tahwitah as well as on the areas of Qasqas, Al-Jami', Beirut Forest, Shatila, the Hippodrome, and Hayy as-Siryan. Some two shells fell in the area of Al-Jisr al-Wati in Sinn al-Fil and Al-Hazimiyah this afternoon.

In the mountain area, the artillery shelling included the towns of 'Ayn Traz, (Dayr Sfir), Shartun, Bdadun, Humal, Bulaybil, Wadi Shahrur, Bsaba, Al-Yarzi, Al-Kahhalah and Al-Jumhur. Thus far, the sources of the shelling have been ascertained as being the towns of 'Alayh, Al-Qurayyah, Qubay', Ash-Shabaniyah and Ash-Shuwayfat. A number of injured have been moved to the Hotel Dieu [hospital]. It has been reported that their number is eight and they have sustained various injuries as a result of the artillery shelling. A preliminary count indicates that three persons have been killed. It has been learned that eight persons injured in the indiscriminate shelling have been removed to Al-Maqasid hospital.

At 1230 , a meeting was held under the chairmanship of President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil in B'abda Palace. Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim attended the meeting. Contacts were then started to deal with the situation and establish stability.

The shelling was scheduled to stop at 1300 according to an agreement that was reached earlier but the socialists did not abide by the agreement and asked the Syrians to intervene and assist them in the shelling.

The Voice of Lebanon has learned that the Socialist Progressive Party, during the past 48 hours in the area of Upper al-Matn, received several consignments of ammunition in addition to 200 Grad launchers.

RFL on Syrian Deployment of SAM-6's, Clashes

NC050716 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 5 May 83

[Text] Yesterday, the Syrians continued to reinforce and consolidate their positions. They erected SAM-6 's above the town of Kafr Zabad on the eastern mountain and positioned modern T-72 tanks near the statue of the soldier. A complete Syrian special forces brigade, which is under the command of Rif'at al-Asad, traversed Al-Masna' road to an unidentified destination.

Violent clashes took place in the Al-Qubbah and At-Tall Square in Tripoli last night in which various types of medium and heavy weapons were used. Some two persons were killed and four others were wounded in the clashes.

In the mountain, socialists and communists insisted on causing tension. Last night, they fired rockets and opened sniper fire at Suq al-Gharb from their positions in 'Aytat. At approximately 2315 last night, an explosive device went off in a store on Barbur street that branches from Corniche al-Mazra'ah, causing only material damage. Earlier, an unidentified person hurled a handgrenade in al-Musaytibah. It exploded and caused material damage only.

'Arafat Reportedly Seeks Military Group in Jordan

NC050744 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 5 May 83

[Text] In Damascus, Palestinian sources have stated that Jordan deported scores of PLO members following the failure of the Palestinian-Jordanian negotiations. The sources pointed out that 'Arafat has asked Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir, Fatah Central Committee member and head of Fatah military wing] and Abu al-Hawl [Hayil 'Abd al-Hamid, Fatah Central Committee member] to discuss the practical possibilities of establishing a secret PLO military structure in Jordan.

U.S. Aid for Army, Economic Projects Reported

NC051032 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 5 May 83

[Text] It was reported today that the U.S. Administration has agreed to offer $250 million as emergency aid to Lebanon to be allocated for rebuilding the Army and for financing some economic projects.

Arab Organization Offers Aid to Cities
NC050734 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 5 May 83

[Text] The Arab Cities Organization has decided to contribute 7 million Kuwaiti dinars, the equivalent of $22 million, for rebuilding Beirut and other Lebanese cities that have been damaged. The decision was made at the organization's seventh conference which was concluded last Tuesday in Algiers.

Hafiz Al-Asad To Leave for Saudi Arabia 5 May

JN041922 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1900 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] Our sources report that President Hafiz al-Asad is expected to arrive in Jidda tomorrow to meet with Saudi King Fahd and that preparations for this visit were made during the past 24 hours.

Az-Zu'bi Receives USSR, Cuban Ambassadors

JN041534 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1345 GMT 4 May 83

[Excerpt] Damascus, 4 May (SANA) -- People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud az-Zu'bi this afternoon received Vladimir Invanovich Yukhin, the USSR ambassador in Damascus. Az-Zu'bi spoke about the current situation and bilateral relations, especially parliamentary ones. He also expressed appreciation for the USSR's support for the Arab causes, especially in the current circumstances.

The USSR ambassador reiterated the USSR's principled and firm stands toward the Arabs' struggle for their just causes. He also expressed satisfaction with bilateral relations in the various spheres, and stressed the importance of promoting these relations in the two friendly peoples' common interests.

Az-Zu'bi also received Lester Rodriguez Perez, the Cuban ambassador in Damascus. The ambassador gave Az-Zu'bi a written invitation from Flavio Bravo Pardo, president of the Cuban National Assembly of the People's Government, to visit Cuba at the head of a People's Assembly delegation, within the framework of the exchange of visits, to strengthen the ties between the assemblies in the two countries.

Mashariqah Addresses Popular Rally on Labor Day

JN010958 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0705 GMT 1 May 83

[Speech by Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, secretary of Ba'th Party Regional Command, at 1 May popular rally in Homs—live]

[Excerpts] Comrades, brother workers: Our country, people, and working class celebrate 1 May, Labor Day. Many other countries and the workers in the world at large also celebrate this international day. By celebrating this day, we show our appreciation for the working class. We express appreciation for the good and great efforts being exerted in building the homeland and achieving development and progress.

Comrades, brother workers: Syria is the only bastion of steadfastness and confrontation in the Arab region. It is also the only trench that is defending the Arab nation's dignity, pride, and rights. Syria will pursue its course, which the masses have chosen as their fateful course, the course of liberation, socialism, and progress. Syria will continue to struggle with all the means at hand to liberate all the occupied Arab territories and regain the usurped rights, including our Palestinian Arab people's rights to repatriation, self-determination, and the establishment of their independent state on their soil. These are firm and principled stands from which Syria will not budge, regardless of the magnitude of the imperialist and Zionist onslaught. Syria struggles to achieve the objectives of its course of liberation under struggler President Hafiz al-Asad [applause], and is working to secure the components of this struggle, such as the establishment of a solid basis for steadfastness and confrontation, the attainment of strategic balance between Syria and the Zionist enemy, and the consolidation of our defense capabilities.

Syria is also confronting the schemes of the U.S. imperialists and the racist Zionists, which aim at dominating the Arab region, imposing hegemony on it, and controlling its political and military fate and economic and cultural resources.

The leaders of the racist Zionist entity, in complete coordination with the U.S. imperialists, recently escalated their threats of launching a treacherous aggression against Syria under the pretext that Syria's consolidation of its defense capabilities constitutes a threat to the Israeli enemy's security, and they are completing their preparations for this. They also continue to mass their troops in the Lebanese mountains and Al-Biqa', and are waiting for a green light from U.S. imperialists. All this, however, does not frighten us and will not make us budge from our pan-Arab and militant stands. Syria will not surrender. Its response to the aggression will be strong and decisive. Syria possesses the capabilities, means, determination, and will to defend itself. We are not alone. The masses of our Arab nation, the forces of progress and liberation in the world, and the socialist bloc led by the friendly USSR, the staunch ally and the loyal friend of the Arab nation [applause],support us. They all support our just struggle and causes and offer us assistance and support.

Comrades, brother workers: The U.S. secretary of state is currently touring several countries in the region within the framework of the feverish campaign of U.S. imperialism to peddle capitulatory and defeatist solutions. We and the world at large know that the United States is the source of the problem in Lebanon, as it has been the source of the problem in Palestine. The United States stands in the trench that is hostile to the Arab masses and Arab rights. It supports the injustice of the Zionist enemy and provides it with all means of aggression and expansion at the expense of Arab territories and Arab people. It continues to implement schemes that are hostile to the Arab nation's aspirations and objectives until the end. The United States is not an impartial side in the Arab-Israeli dispute. It is a party to this dispute, because it is the Zionist enemy's partner in all its acts of aggression and expansion and in its settlement policy. It provides the Zionist enemy with the necessary military and economic assistance, and places at its disposal the most sophisticated means of destruction in its arsenal.

Therefore, U.S. interference in settling the region's problems or U.S. mediation are not impartial moves, because they are not based on justice. Thus, the tours of their envoys and officials in the region, through which they try to depict the United States as an impartial party, are mere theatrical tours whose real purpose is to put more pressure on the Arab nation and to blackmail it more and more with respect to its rights, land, and people.

As for Lebanon, fraternal Lebanon, whose president, Amin al-Jumayyil, had announced that it refuses to relinquish one inch of Lebanese territory or have its sovereignty harmed, and who had categorically rejected the presence of any Zionist soldier on the beloved Lebanese soil, we support Lebanon, we support our brothers in Lebanon, we support Lebanon's national and honorable stand. We shall continue the struggle with Lebanon so that its freedom, sovereignty, or independence will not be harmed. We shall continue the struggle with the Lebanese to remove all Zionist soldiers from Lebanon. The withdrawal of the racist Zionists from Lebanon and the other occupied Arab territories will be achieved, however long it takes, thanks to the struggle of our Arab masses in Lebanon, and the other parts of the Arab homeland.

Comrades, brother workers: We are defending a sacred cause. When we defend such a cause, we do not heed the consequences and we do not fear the results, which in the end will be in the interest of the Arab masses. As for those who consider the course of negotiations with the enemy as the only course, those who are ready to accept U.S.-Zionist capitulatory solutions and who are panting after these solutions and see in them an opportunity which must be grasped, let them know that all the peoples in the world who suffered from the injustice and oppression of colonialism liberated themselves by struggle and fighting.

The Zionist enemy occupied the land by force and expelled its inhabitants by force. These lands can be regained only by force [applause]. Let those Arab rulers or others whose only concern is to give advice know that the road to liberating the occupied Arab territories and regaining the usurped rights is that of struggle and fighting, which is the only road capable of wresting the people's rights.

Comrades, brother workers: I congratulate you on Labor Day and hope that your militant role in building and protecting the homeland will be strengthened while we pursue the course of struggle, the course of construction and liberation, the course of progress and socialism under comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad [applause], secretary general of the Ba'th Party and president of the Republic, until our masses' aspirations for liberation, unity, and socialism are achieved.

Dailies on Syrian, Lebanese Coordination

JN041032 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 4 May 83

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Credibility and Effectiveness of the Syrian Stand," the newspaper AL-BA'TH says: The events that have taken place during the last few weeks have proved that the first and last objective of the intensive U.S. moves is to contain Syria's pan-Arab stand and paralyze its movement. It is no secret that the U.S. Administration has used several tools in the region to achieve this goal, but all these attempts failed to weaken Syria's steadfast and clear position. Washington recently became convinced that its plans should be ammended. Therefore, it resorted to its new, but old carrot-and-stick policy.

The United States has assigned the role of the stick to Israel. Thus, the enemy leaders began concentrating their military forces and making their threats. This method is no longer a secret because even in the most difficult and complicated circumstances, Syria did not give in, but continued to believe in victory. How can it give in, especially now, when it is at the peak of its power, which has been created by its steadfastness and insistence on achieving a balance of power with the Zionist enemy?

AL-BA'TH adds: We in Syria realize that the leaders in Washington will use any method to achieve their goals which are ultimately Israel's goals. Those leaders and their tools in the region said that Syria is the main obstacle to peace in the region. In other words, they want to hold Syria responsible for what might happen in the future. Some people in our Arab homeland adopted this U.S.-Israeli position. But Syria remained steadfast. Instead of turning its back on the pan-Arab firm and principled stands, Syria exerted a great effort to strengthen these stands. Its national unity and the support of the Arab masses and friendly countries, foremost of which is the Soviet Union, have helped Syria adhere to its positions.

AL-BA'TH adds: Some people in our Arab homeland accused Syria of adopting a negative position on all proposals. They hold Syria responsible as the Americans and Israelis do. We affirm that U.S. proposals do not aim to achieve the desired peace, which the international communtiy has stressed. Washington wants to impose hegemony over the Arabs through different means. There is no doubt that George Shultz' shuttling between Lebanon and Israel is part of a capitulatory plan that the United States is trying to impose on the Arabs.

AL-BA'TH concludes: President Al-Asad, yesterday and the day before yesterday, affirmed that Syria will resist and crush any attempt to impose capitulation and will not allow Israel, under any circumstance, to realize any gains as a result of its aggression against Lebanon. In brief, events have asserted the credibility of the Syrian stand.

The newspaper TISHRIN says: Immediately after the visit of President Amin al-Jumayyil's envoys to Damascus and President Hafiz al-Asad's meeting with them, Israeli proaganda organs launched a fierce and venomous campaign against Syria and Lebanon to disrupt the organic link between the two twin countries. Naturally, nobody expected anything else from these organs. The intimate ties between Syria and Lebanon prompt the two countries to adopt a unified stand that will provide them with power and durability. The enemy will not accept or ignore this. Those propaganda organs began to adopt an extortionist stand by threatening the Lebanese Government not to consult and coordinate with Syria and adopt a unified position. Those organs also threatened to maintain the current situation in Lebanon and stop any Israeli withdrawal unless the ties with Syria are ended and Lebanon's future and fate are put in the hands of Israel and its American supporters.

TISHRIN adds: There is no need to affirm that what President al-Jumayyil's envoys heard from President Hafiz al-Asad encourages Lebanon to adhere to these concepts and, consequently, to realize them according to the requirements of the

current situation. President al-Asad affirmed that Syria will stand by Lebanon and resist any attempts by Israel to make any gains, because such gains will affect Lebanon's security and independence as well as Syria's security. It is obvious that President al-Asad's assertions suggestSyria's belief in a common destiny with fraternal Lebanon, and in the need to advance coordination between the twin countries to enable them to confront the common Israeli enemy more effectively.

AL-BA'TH Links Shultz Tour With War Plans

JN050823 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 5 May 83

[From the press review]

[Text] The front pages of today's newspapers report the increasing Zionist military concentrations in Lebanon in preparation for an aggression against Syria. They also highlight the U.S. Administration's attempts to utilize the Israeli occupation in its own interests.

On this topic, AL-BA'TH writes: Since the Zionist invasion of Lebanon in June 1982, the Arab region has been witnessing intensive moves by U.S. diplomacy. The connection between the invasion and these moves is no longer a topic of argument. It has become clear that the ivnasion was a prelude for U.S. diplomacy to renew its activity and become an extension of what Carter called before the Camp David accords a U.S. peace onslaught in the region.

Shultz' tour is considered the peak of U.S. moves to entrench the political realities Washington has long been planning. Indications emerging before and during Shultz' tour clearly prove that the U.S. Administration does not intend to search for the requisites of a just peace in the region, as some Arabs are claiming, but is trying to reward the Israeli aggressors for their aggression against the Arabs and their rights.

AL-BA'TH adds: Facts speak for themselves. Reagan threatened those whom he called Arab extremists and terrorists prior to Shultz' tour, accusing them of vetoing his plan. Shultz, who is currently in the region, began his tour by telling journalists that the Arabs committed a historic mistake when they chose the PLO as the Palestinian people's sole representative. He called on the Arabs to withdraw their decision in this regard.

During his tours of Tel Aviv and Beirut, it was obvious that what Shultz was arranging here differed completely from what he was arranging there. At this first meeting with the enemy leaders in Tel Aviv, he discussed the military situation in Syria under the pretext of a Soviet presence. This was followed by lengthy talks on the renewal of the strategic agreement between Washington and Tel Aviv and the guarantees that the United States is securing for Israel in the Arab region and the world — particularly the U.S. cover provided for Israel's hostile policy at international bodies and forums.

AL-BA'TH continues: Thus, all indications show that Shultz' tour aims at giving Israel the price for its invasion of Lebanon through trickery and intimidation on the one hand, and through arranging and coordinating matters with Tel Aviv to plan a large-scale aggression against Syria, under the pretext of a Soviet presence, on the other. Everyone is aware of the fact that the new U.S. trick also aims at replacing the Israeli occupation of Lebanon by a U.S. one if Israeli security conditions and arrangements are not completely fulfilled.

Based on what we have already said, it becomes clear that Washington is not satisfied with humiliating the Arabs through a programmed plan, but is acting in such a manner as to reshape political life and the Arab future according to its will.

Concluding, AL-BA'TH says: During the Lebanese delegation's visit to Damascus, Syria unequivocally announced that, if Israel gains by harming Lebanon's sovereignty and independence, the Syrian forces will remain in Lebanon until that gain is nullified. In light of the current U.S. maneuvers, we must also stress that any harm inflicted on Lebanon's security and sovereignty is harm inflicted on Syria's security and independence.

Hence, there are no geographical considerations or borders between Syria and Lebanon regarding the common danger, which Syria will resist and do its utmost to confront and defeat. Through Syria's strong, effective stand, Lebanon will find many cards in its hands by which it can dispose of the U.S. pressures and the Israeli conditions, and by which it can proceed toward the liberation of its lands from the Israeli occupiers. Syria will continue to reserve for itself the right to appropriately respond to any U.S.-Zionist attempt to impose an agreement or conditions undermining Lebanon's sovereignty and independence and threatening Syria and the Arab cause.

Damascus Radio Cites TASS on Middle East War

JN050659 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 5 May 83

[Text] The Soviet news agency TASS expressed its conviction that the U.S. Administration may try to pave the way for peace in the Middle East in the American way — through a new war for which the Israeli Government is preparing with the knowledge of the U.S. Administration.

In a commentary yesterday, TASS said that the concentration of five elite Zionist army divisions in the Al-Biqa' valley, where Israel is publicly preparing for a blow against Syria, has not been coincidental with the U.S. secretary of state's Middle East shuttle tours.

The agency pointed out that Shultz' mission has not yet ended, but it is obvious that this tour is not inclined to reduce the danger of war in the Middle East; it aims at increasing this danger, particularly since the tour seeks to activate the Camp David bargain and implement the anti-Arab Reagan plan.

Palestine Broadcast on Syrian-Palestinian Meeting
JN041752 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 4 May 83

[Palestine Broadcast: "Talk of the Return"]

[Text] Brothers on the road to liberation and revolution: The important meeting that took place in Damascus yesterday between the Palestinian revolution's leadership and President Hafiz al-Asad reiterated the depth of the Palestinian-Syrian cohesion, which was and will remain the strong and firm rock on which the designs and conspiracies of the enemy forces, which are hostile to our nation and its central cause, Palestine, will founder.

The Palestinian-Syrian meeting, which was held on the highest level, embodied our people's aspirations and stressed the need for the unity of the Palestinian-Syrian stand in the face of the imperialist-Zionist design, which seeks to weaken and fragment the Arab steadfastness forces, foremost being Syria and the PLO. This meeting is important because it has come while U.S. imperialism, Zionism, and some Arab reactionary regimes that are loyal to them, are escalating their campaign against Syria and the PLO. Israel is reinforcing its military concentrations in Al-Biqa' to confront the Palestinian and Syrian forces. U.S. Secretary of State Shultz is resuming his shuttle tour between Lebanon and the Zionist entity in an attempt to put pressure on the Lebanese authority and force it to accept the Israeli conditions and demands that affect Lebanon's sovereignty, independence, and freedom.

The U.S. Administration also stepped up its campaign against the PLO, and casted doubts on the fact that the PLO is the sole representative of the Palestinian Arab people. Moreover, the U.S. secretary of state has reached a point where he called on the Arab states to cancel the Arab summit resolutions, which were issued in 1974, concerning the recognition of the PLO as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian Arab people. At the same time, the parties to the imperialist-Zionist scheme, including some Arab reactionary regimes, are putting pressure on the PLO to force it to relinquish its right to represent the Palestinian Arab people and to delegate this right to the King of Jordan

In order to confront these suspect moves, which are being carried out by the imperialist and Zionist forces and by some Arab regimes, to liquidate the PLO and the Palestine question, to impose the Israeli conditions on the Lebanese authority, and to deal a military blow to the Syrian forces in Al-Biqa', the Syrian and Palestinian leaders met yesterday. During this meeting, the talks dealt with the situation in the region in light of the imperialist and Zionist conspiracies to liquidate the Palestine question and to impose control on Lebanon, and on the need to confront these conspiracies in order to foil them. Here lies the importance and the necessity of Palestinian-Syrian cohesion in the battle of common destiny against Zionism and imperialism and their ambitions and designs in the region.

The primary target of the imperialist and Zionist scheme are Syria and the PLO, because Zionists and imperialists believe that weakening Syrian-Palestinian steadfastness would pave the way for the execution of the conspiracy embodied in the Reagan plan. This is why President Hafiz al-Asad stressed Syria's principled and firm commitment to the Palestine question and affirmed the importance of the unified Palestinian national stand, which is commited to the Palestinian Arab people's right to self-determination, repatriation, and the establishment of the independent state under the PLO, and the importance of this stand in confronting imperialist and Zionist schemes and designs that are being concocted to impose control on Lebanon and the region and to involve some Arab parties in capitulation to the imperialists.

Therefore, the Palestinian leadership's meeting with President Hafiz al-Asad, which took place in Damascus yesterday, is an expression of the Arab masses' will in their confrontation of the most serious onslaught launched by the imperialist and Zionist forces in order to implement the designs and plans that aim at liquidating the Palestine question, the Palestinian Arab people's rights, and the PLO. Imperialists and Zionists were disappointed by this important meeting, because they wagered on undermining the unity of Arab steadfastness. On the contrary, this meeting has stressed that Syrian-Palestinian cohesion will remain strong and firm. It will also remain a thorn in the side of the enemies of the Arab nation and its central cause, Palestine.

Al-Ahmar Receives Jordanian Students Committee
JN041148 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, today received the Executive Committee and the leadership of the Damascus branch of the General Federation of Jordanian Students in the presence of Comrade Ahmad 'Ubaydat. The meeting was devoted to reviewing the current Arab situation and the U.S.-Zionist-reactionary plan to liquidate the Palestine question and achieve expansion in and hegemony over the region.

Comrade Al-Ahmar stressed the role played by the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party to foil this plan and to continue the struggle to achieve the objectives of liberating Arab territories and building the unified socialist Arab society. He also stressed the important role of the Jordanian students movement as part of the Arab students movement.

At the end of the meeting, the chairman of the Executive Committee expressed his appreciation of the role that is being played by the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and Syria, and affirmed that the student masses support Syria in confronting enemy plans and continuing the struggle until liberation and victory.

Agreement Said Near As Shultz Returns From Beirut

Returns With Final Draft

Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] The U.S. secretary of state brought with him to Israel a final draft of the Israeli-Lebanese agreement. This was stated to correspondents by a senior State Department official who accompanied George Shultz on his flight to Israel from Beirut. In the opinion of the official, who asked to remain anonymous, the negotiations have reached a stage in which no party will be able to refuse the proposed agreement.

Another official said it had been agreed that Haddad would be given a key position but not a command post. According to the official, Israel and Lebanon are still divided on this point and on how long Major Haddad will continue to serve in this position.

The meeting between Secretary Shultz and the prime minister and defense and foreign ministers is continuing in Jerusalem. According to our political correspondent, the meeting was set because the talks with Lebanon have reached a stage which necessitates the adoption of decisions in Israel.

Details of Agreement Reported

TA041819 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 4 May 83

[Excerpt] Our political correspondent points out that the final draft of the agreement between Israel and Lebanon states that the state of belligerency between the two countries will end, and that many security measures will be adopted to secure the northern border. It also stipulates that both countries will retain their right to self-defense if the agreements between them are violated. As for normalization, the draft notes that negotiations about its implementation will open within 6 months from the day of the IDF's withdrawal from Lebanon.

Our correspondent remarks that the differences of opinion revolve around the question of who will sign the agreements. Israel proposes that they be signed by the foreign ministers, while Lebanon demands that the heads of the negotiating delegations sign them. The United States has announced that it will formulate the letters of guarantee to both sides by the end of this week.

Our correspondent points out that Secretary Shultz does not intend to remain in the area next week. He will go to Damascus on Saturday, and will then proceed to Paris and return to Washington.

Lebanon Reportedly OK's Agreement

TA042110 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State Shultz told correspondents on the plane which brought him from Beirut that Syria should agree to pull out its forces before the IDF forces withdraw. It is clear that the Israelis will not withdraw as long as the Syrian forces do not withdraw. Shultz reiterated his position that the question of the Syrian withdrawal is a matter for negotiations between the Syrian and Lebanese Governments. As for the problem of Major Sa'd Haddad's status, Secretary Shultz said he has a proposal which may solve the problem, but refused to elaborate.

Correspondents on Shultz' plane reported that the Lebanese Government gave its agreement to the draft agreement.

Begin-Shultz Meeting

TA041726 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1719 GMT 4 May 83

[Report by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer outside the prime minister's office in Jerusalem — live]

[Text] There is an indication that matters are indeed about to be concluded. The meeting between U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and the prime minister ended a few minutes ago. Both men have emerged from the meeting.

Secretary Shultz rushed to another meeting with Ministers Shamir and Arens and the Israeli team in the negotiations in order to go over all the clauses of the documents of the agreement between Israel and Lebanon this evening. Indeed, matters are approaching a conclusion, and a hint of this could be heard in the prime minister's remarks a few minutes ago.

[Begin Begin recording] We held a very pleasant talk with the secretary of state, Mr Habib, and the U.S. ambassador, while the foreign and defense ministers attended on our part. However, we still have very important matters to decide upon — not everything has yet been agreed to. We will very soon convoke a Cabinet session in order to make a decision which only the Cabinet is authorized to make. [end recording]

This is the indication. The Cabinet will apparently meet tomorrow, but we do not yet know this for certain. The ministers will be submitted the agreement proposed between Israel and Lebanon, an agreement which was reached after much work — after many months of strenuous work — and a week of shuttle by the U.S. secretary of state.

More on Meeting

TA041916 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 4 May 83

[Excerpts] The Cabinet will hold a special session tomorrow to discuss the endorsement of several items in the agreement for the pullout of the foreign forces from Lebanon. The meeting between the U.S. secretary of state, the prime minister, and the team to the negotiations ended a short time ago at the prime minister's office in Jerusalem. At the end of the meeting, Shultz said that the draft agreement is completed and that he is very optimistic. The prime minister said that several problems remain which call for the entire Cabinet's approval. Our political correspondent Yoram Ronen reports:

[Ronen — live] When Shultz emerged from the prime minister's office about 1 hour ago, he was full of hope that he would be able to announce either tomorrow or the next day that his tough mission has succeeded, and that he has managed to achieve an arrangement between Israel and Lebanon. Shultz was very cautious in his remarks, and only spoke about a good and candid talk with the prime minister. The prime minister exphasized that only the Cabinet is authorized to endorse the agreement between Israel and Lebanon.

If an unexpected hitch does not occur by tomorrow, the Cabinet will approve the draft agreement between Israel and Lebanon for the pullout of all the foreign forces. At the time it was stated that the Cabinet would be convened if it became necessary to change or deviate from its previous decisions on the Lebanese issue. It seems that the Cabinet now has to adopt new decisions on the two fundamental issues which had been in dispute between Israel and Lebanon: Major Sa'd Haddad's status and the joint IDF-Lebanese Army patrols in the security strip.

Israel has softened its position on these two points and the Lebanese have apparently also agreed to give in. It is not yet known how Haddad's status will be defined, but it looks as if he will not be the exclusive commander of the Lebanese forces in the south.

Two days ago Shultz raised his own proposals on the Haddad issue which were accepted by the prime minister, and it seems that President al-Jumayyil also agreed to them. A man escorting Shultz this evening said that Israel wants very much to pull its forces out of Lebanon and to help President Reagan and his secretary of state. Therefore, it is unlikely that the Cabinet will create obstacles at the last stage preceding the arrangement.

When George Shultz arrived at the prime minister's office this evening, it was clear that the time for a decision had come. The secretary of state told the prime minister, and the foreign and defense ministers that the agreement he is submitting to them is the best he could have achieved for both Israel and Lebanon. If the Cabinet approves it tomorrow, Shultz will be able to depart for brief visits in Jordan and Saudi Arabia, and will arrive in Damascus on Saturday for a talk with President al-Asad which will probably be the toughest part of his mission. Shultz remains loyal to his tactics to first of all bring about an Israeli-Lebanese agreement and only later get Syria's approval.

The Israeli and U.S. negotiating teams are still sitting in the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem and formulating the final version of the agreement. The atmosphere here is optimistic, also on the Israeli side.

Foreign Minister Shamir stated a short time ago in Jerusalem that if Lebanon does not give in to external pressure he does not see any difficulty in reaching an agreement wanted by both Israel and Lebanon.

Shultz-Shamir-Arens Meeting

TA042107 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] About 30 minutes ago, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz ended his meeting with the Israeli foreign and defense ministers during which he discussed with them the proposed agreement for the Israeli-Lebanese arrangements. At the end of the meeting, Minister Shamir said that the Israeli team will continue to discuss the proposals brought by Secretary Shultz. The discussions will continue tomorrow as well, and later the agreement will be discussed in a special Cabinet meeting. Our political correspondent reports that the meeting may take place on Friday.

This evening Minister Shamir said that only when an agreed proposal is consolidated in the talks with the Americans will it be brought before the Cabinet. He also said that the IDF will not leave Lebanon if all the terrorists and the Syrian soldiers do not leave it.

Cabinet To Discuss Accord

TA050522 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 5 May 83

[Excerpts] Last night the U.S. secretary of state pleaded with Israel to sign the proposed agreement with Lebanon because he believes that time is not running in its favor, and Syria is exerting heavy pressure on Lebanon. Secretary Shultz reported that senior government officials in Lebanon are confident, and certain that they will succeed in persuading all the factions in Lebanon to support the agreement, as well as in explaining its specifics to the Arab countries.

Consultations over the final draft of the agreement will continue in Jerusalem today. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that at the same time, Ministers Shamir and Arens will try to wrap up several issues pending between Israel and the United States with Secretary Shultz. Israel hopes to sign a memorandum of understanding which would endorse previous Washington undertakings, including the one that the United States will not negotiate with the PLO until the latter recognizes Israel's right to exist, political cooperation, and future Israeli defense procurement.

Correspondents in Secretary Shultz' entourage report that the Lebanese Government has already accepted the emerging agreement.

The Israeli Cabinet will convene tomorrow in an extraordinary session. The prime minister will apparently submit the version of the proposed agreement with Lebanon, the enclosed letters, and the agreements reached with the United States to the ministers for their approval.

Our correspondent in Washington Shalom Qital reports that the ministers currently visiting in the United States have been asked to return to Israel to attend the Cabinet session. Our correspondent emphasizes that on issues which were disputed during the negotiations, the Cabinet will have to adopt a new decision because its previous ones are no longer appropriate.

People in Jerusalem are convinced that most ministers will support the endorsement of the agreements after they have seen them all.

It has been reported that Secretary Shultz does not intend to remain in the region next week. He will visit Damascus on Saturday and will then proceed to Paris and return to Washington.

Shamir Comments on Agreement

TA050626 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0605 GMT 5 May 83

[Text] The agreement with Lebanon is a package deal and it contains clauses which each party more or less accepts. The Cabinet will have to vote on all the clauses, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir stated. Minister Shamir was speaking with correspondents last night in Jerusalem. Our correspondent Tzvi Zerahiya reports on Shamir's remarks.

[Begin recording] [Shamir] We are sitting with the U.S. secretary of state this evening and discussing all the clauses which are still under dispute. When we arrive at agreements and we have a consolidated proposal which will reflect the agreement of Lebanon and the United States, we will submit that proposal to the Cabinet and the latter will adopt a resolution.

[Question by unidentified correspondent] Has some sort of solution been found to one of the most difficult problems, that of Major Sa'd Haddad's status in southern Lebanon?

[Answer] I cannot go into details now. All these matters are subject to negotiations which will continue tonight and in the next few days.

[Question by unidentified correspondent] How long after the agreement has been signed would you say that the IDF will get out of Lebanon?

[Answer] That will be part of the agreement but, actually, it is not only up to us. After all, the IDF's withdrawal will come about along with the withdrawal of all the foreign forces. The IDF will not leave unless the PLO and the Syrian Army soldiers get out of the whole of Lebanon. Therefore, it is impossible to determine now for how long the withdrawal will continue. However, I assume that it will not go on for long.

[Question by unidentified correspondent] Would you say that a breakthrough occurred in the last few days, or today, and if so, on which issues?

[Answer] It is not a matter of this or another clause. At stake is a package deal which includes many clauses. This package includes elements which each of the parties agrees to more or less, and the decision will have to be made on all the proposals. [end recording]

Kimche on Muslim Pressure

TA041305 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State Shultz is expected back in Jerusalem this afternoon. If Shultz does finalize an agreement by this weekend, he would have to cut through the different pressures that have been exerted on President al-Jumayyil since the negotiations began 4 months ago. In Jerusalem last night, Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche spoke of these pressures. David Essing reports:

[Begin Essing recording] David Kimche said Lebanon's Muslims wanted nothing to do with an agreement with Israel from the outset. In fact, they wanted to go to the Arab world and pin the blame on the Christians for selling out the Arabs. Therefore, Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil tried at all costs to maintain a consensus with the Muslims. Every detail had to have the blessing of the Muslims, and Muslim leaders set the pace.

The Arab world also brought pressure to bear. Kimche disclosed that recently Saudi Arabia turned back a shipment of Lebanese exports, saying that maybe some Israeli products were included. The Lebanese went into a panic, fearing an Arab boycott. On top of this, the Syrians also got into the act, warning they would impose a defense pact on Lebanon.

In spite of these pressures, David Kimche says the Lebanese are not worried so much about what is inside a package agreement with Israel, but more about how the wrapping paper will be viewed in the Arab world.

Shamir, Chief of Staff Levi on War in Lebanon

TA042111 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2057 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] Jerusalem 4 May (ITIM) — "Talk is heard in the world about pressures the United States is exerting on us to compel us to get out of Lebanon, and thus pave the road for other political plans. This is nonesense. We have no military interest in remaining on Lebanese soil and there is no need for any pressure — U.S. or otherwise — for us to leave this country. It is in our interest to get out of this country, but before we do it is our duty to our people and the Galilee residents to ensure we will no longer be attacked from Lebanese territory." These remarks were made this evening by Foreign Minister Yithzaq Shamir in a ceremonious rally of IDF disabled soldiers in Jerusalem, on the occasion of Independence Day [as received] and Jerusalem Day.

The foreign minister emphasized that "there is no connection between our negotiations with Lebanon on the security arrangements and a new system of cooperation and mutual security, and between "other political plans which we do not agree to." He called on the Lebanese Government and the Lebanese people to find the determination to act on behalf of the

common interest of both countries. "If they do not surrender to foreign dictates, we will have an agreement on security arrangements in the border region, the IDF will no longer have to remain in Lebanon, and its soldiers will no longer be exposed to attacks and dangers."

The chief of staff, Lieutenant General Moshe Levi, said that Israel today too finds itself in the situation that has characterized it since its foundation.

"We have to set out on war to defend our very existence and, at the same time, we must — from a position of power — try and find any means so that less and less we will need to resort to commanding our forces to set out on war. Every time we set out to war, we have to do so while directly looking into the soldiers' eyes, and every time we try to achieve agreements it is our duty to direct the same look to the soldiers' eyes.

I am glad that I can look in the soldiers' eyes and say with certainty that what will be obtained in the negotiations will decrease the need for us to set out to war."

Levi Tells Knesset Committee of Syrian Threat

TA041619 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi today made his maiden appearance before the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee. He said that the Syrian Army is deployed opposite the IDF, and there are signs indicating that it is in a state of alert. He added that the possibility should not be ruled out that Damascus is hardening its positions precisely at a time when it is striving for negotiations with Washington.

Referring to the Russian involvement, the chief of staff said Soviet military units are currently stationed in Syria, and Soviet advisers are stationed in the Al-Biqa' within Syrian Army units. He went on to say that terrorist activities in Lebanon are not only carried out by Palestinians but also by Druze and Christians.

Syria Again Accused of Role in Embassy Blast

TA050921 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 5 May 83 p 1

[Report by the military correspondent]

[Excerpt] In talks with U.S. Secretary of State Shultz and his senior aides, Israeli representatives have repeated that Syria was involved in the explosion at the U.S. Embassy in Beirut.

That explosion was a topic frequently raised by both parties. The Americans noted that senior Israeli representatives and their aides repeatedly told them that Syria had a hand in the U.S. Embassy explosion. This information is apparently based on secret details that reached Israel, and may have been transmitted to U.S. experts.

Shots Fired By IDF Soldiers Near U.S. Marines

TA041616 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] Several volleys of machineguns used by IDF soldiers east of Beirut today passed through the area of the U.S. Marines' command near the international airport. Nobody was hurt.

The spokesman of the U.S. Marines' unit said that its commander, Colonel James Mead, reported the incident to the IDF personnel. Our correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that the volleys were fired by an IDF patrol to open an axis on a IDF patrol path where an IDF vehicle had previously been hit and six soldiers wounded.

More Details on Incident

TA041836 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 4 May 83

[Report by Alan Ben-'Ami]

[Excerpt] According to U.S. Marines at the Marine headquarters compound [in the Beirut international airport area], bullets began coming their way, one even going through the tent of the Marines Public Affairs Office. [Words indistinct] told an AP reporter that that bullet passed a couple of feet away from a Marine sergeant. The Israeli Army spokesman says the communications links between the Marines and an Israeli liaison office were quickly used. The shooting stopped and the incident cleared up. The spokesman stressed that there had been no deliberate firing toward the Marines, and the Israeli soldiers had not been aware that any of their shooting was going in that direction.

In Washington tonight, State Department Spokesman Alan Bromberg also said there is nothing to indicate the soldiers had been firing on the U.S. Marines. The American official added that the United States would consider it a matter of considerable concern if the PLO is infiltrating back into Lebanon.

Anti-IDF Terrorist Acts in Lebanon Discussed

TA041553 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1510 GMT 4 May

[Report by military correspondent Shmu'el Tal]

[Excerpt] Over the last 24 hours, 12 IDF soldiers have been wounded. The terrorists have recently increased their terrorist acts and stepped up their attempts to attack IDF soldiers. They are active in an area which is familiar to them, and where large-scale preventive acts similar to those carried out by the security forces in Judaea and Samaria are not performed.

The objective of the terrorist acts, among other things, is to harm the mediation moves and the peace talks with Lebanon, and to prove to the U.S. secretary of state that the area is not calm. This is also tantamount to a real war of attrition aimed at making life

difficult for the IDF forces in Lebanon, compelling the IDF to concentrate major efforts on this front, and causing as many casualties among the soldiers as possible.

Despite the efforts the IDF invests in routine security measures and activities, the terrorist acts increase and become more daring. The terrorists take very little risk since they operate bombs by way of remote control, and are not exposed to a frontal clash. They boobytrap cars and fire projectiles toward IDF facilities.

At the end of last month we counted more than 23 terrorist acts. Since the beginning of the month and up until now, more acts have been perpetrated and 12 soldiers were wounded. In addition to Palestinian organizations, local organizations of leftist Druze — active under the aegis of the Syrians — take part in the hostilities. Anti-IDF operations take place almost daily. Since the beginning of the war, 2,668 soldiers have been wounded in Lebanon. The number of soldiers killed in Lebanon stands at 480.

More on IRC's Meeting With Jibril-Held POW's

TA041535 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1510 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] Yosef Groff and Nisim Shalem, the two Israeli prisoners in the hands of the Jibril organization, yesterday received letters and packages from their homes for the first time since they were captured. The International Red Cross [IRC] representative who met the two in Syria brought them the letters and packages. Our correspondent Mikha Friedman talked with the IRC spokesman in Geneva, and also reviews the reports of the various news agencies:

[Begin Friedman recording] The IRC spokesman, (Jean Jacque Kurz), in his location in Geneva cannot give many details about yesterday's meeting in Damascus. The comprehensive report will reach Geneva in only a few days' time he told me at noon today, and the organization normally does not break news about such sensitive issues to the press. The spokesman was prepared to confirm that at a late hour yesterday, the IRC representative in Damascus, accompanied by a Swiss doctor, met Yosef Groff and Nisim Shalem. That was the first time that the IRC representatives — any outsider in fact — saw the two who were captured by the Ahmad Jibril organization at the beginning of September.

During the meeting the two prisoners were in the same room, but the spokesman could not say whether this indicates that the two are together under different circumstances as well. [Kurz] also knows nothing about the state of health of the two prisoners, what has happened to them in recent months, and what their conditions of imprisonment are. (Kurz) says that the IRC representatives handed the two POW's letters and packages from their homes, and picked up letters that the two wrote to their families, one letter from each of the two. In answer to a question, (Kurz) confirmed that it is expected in Geneva that additional, more frequent meetings will be held in the future although no dates have yet been set.

The IRC representatives are also expected to visit the other six prisoners held by the Fatah organization. The last visit of these prisoners took place on 15 March, and the contact with them has been severed since. The visit of the six prisoners may take place within a few days already. [end recording]

Free Trade Zone With U.S. Promoted During Visit

TA050955 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 5 May 83 p 2

["Exclusive" report from Washington by Yosef Pri'el]

[Text] Washington — Following the talks Industry and Commerce Minister Gid'on Pat held in the last 24 hours with senior U.S. Administration officials as well as with the chairmen of the two congressional committees on trade affairs, much progress has reportedly been made in Israel's attempts to establish a free trade zone with the United States.

Minister Pat told DAVAR that a formula is being worked out to allow Israel to continue to enjoy the customs reliefs it has been granted as a result of its being numbered among the developing countries. This will remain in effect until the bilateral free trade zone is established. The customs reliefs applying to Israel will expire in 1985, and now the chances have increased that they will be extended until the new arrangement between Israel and the United States becomes effective.

In the meetings Pat held with U.S. Commerce Secretary Baldrige and the U.S. President's trade representative, William Brock, Israel was led to understand that the administration would in no way jeopardize Israel's present preferential status.

The Americans apparently plan to change the customs reliefs system granted to foreign countries and make those reliefs mutual, so that a country that provide's leniencies to imports from the United States would enjoy reciprocal customs duties reliefs on exports it sends to the United States. Israel is willing to go ahead with this arrangement to the point of absolutely abolishing all the taxes that are effective between the two countries. This suggestion is currently undergoing close scrutiny in the administration and Congress, and the contacts between the two countries will continue in the very near future.

Cuban Delegation Visiting as RAKAH Guest

TA041548 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1455 GMT 4 May 83

[RAKAH spokesman announcement]

[Text] Tel Aviv, 4 May (ITIM) — An official Cuban delegation on behalf of Cuban Communist Party Central Committee has arrived in Israel. This is the first time that a Cuban delegation has visited Israel since relations between Cuba and Israel were severed.

The delegation arrived at the invitation of the RAKAH Central Committee to reciprocate the visit paid about 6 months ago by a RAKAH delegation. The delegation includes Deputy Director of the Foreign Relations Department Eloy Valdes [title as received] and the editor of the official organ GRANMA, Rodolfo Casals. The delegation will stay approximately a week in Israel and will hold talks with RAKAH leaders and other organizations and figures, and will also tour the country.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Demands 'Full Cargo' on Planes

LD050033 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland In Arabic 2315 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] Brother Leader Colonel Mu'ammar Al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great 1 September Revolution, yesterday evening [Wednesday] called the Brazilian ambassador to the Jamahiriyah and told him that he is not a traditional president and has nothing to do with the ambassadors of foreign countries. Their contacts are with the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison which the [word indistinct] Arab people has commissioned [words indistinct].

Brother colonel [words indistinct] in view of the subject of the formation of Libyan aircraft and the Brazilian Government treatment of it was insulting to the Libyan people and constituted interference in its internal affairs. Also, the behavior of the Brazilian Government was far from reasonable and acceptable limits. So, accordingly, the brother colonel informed the Brazilian ambassador to tell his government that SPLAJ [Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah] firmly refuses to receive the cargo from the aircraft formation carried on any means of transportation other than the Libyan aircraft which are in Brazil, and that the Libyan aircraft formation was ordered not to leave Brazil's Manaus airport in particular, except with its full cargo. The Brazilian Government has the right to do what it wishes, within its borders, concerning the aircraft formation and crew, and Libya reserves its right to do what it wishes as well. In addition to that, the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison will issue a statement to the shipping and air companies not to commit themselves to transport the cargo of the Libyan aircraft formation, because Libya will not receive it, except on the aircraft formation which carried them. The brother colonel added during his meeting with the ambassador that since Brazil hastaken the side of imperialism against the Nicaraguan people and isstanding against the freedom of the peoples and against the freedom of the Libyan people, then it is only right that the aircraft formation be allowed to return to the Jamahiriyah carrying its full cargo.

It is known that Brazil used crew from Iraq and 16 Americans in opening the Libyan aircraft and searching and emptying them. Also, the Brazilian Government refused to return the cargo on the Libyan aircraft and asked to rent transport from other countries.

JANA on Aims, Possible Results of Shultz Tour

LD042146 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1750 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] Tripoli, 4 May (JANA) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz is continuing a tour in the Arab region, through which the U.S. Adminsitration aims to impose its control and hegemony on the region.

The U.S. Administration sent its secretary of state to the Arab region in a desperate attempt to mend its aggressive policy's deterioration and collapse at the hands of Latin American peoples and the defeats dealt it by the peoples of Central America.

In a commentary on Shultz' tour, the JANA political editor said that the U.S. Administration, which has fled from Latin America frightened by the nightmare and defeats it suffered there, has turned to the Arab region to concentrate its military presence in its miltiary bases in the Arab region and back up the Zionist enemy's expansionist policy in this region.

The political editor stressed that the Arab people have become fully aware of the U.S. Administration's schemes in the Arab region and that the Arab citizen will not be fooled by any side. Therefore, what the U.S. Administration is now doing is only planting in the sea or jumping in the air. The Arab people cannot but evaluate U.S. policy as a policy of aggression and exploitation, which the Arab citizen rejects.

The U.S. Administration has returned to the Arab region to exercise the filthy role it exercised in Asia and Central America. The Arab citizen cannot possibly deal with with the United States as an aggressive, arrogant, and hateful state that is trying to spread destruction and devastation and consolidate Zionist occupation in the region. Events in the Arab region have proven this: What did the Arab nation gain from the tours by Henry Kissinger, the former U.S. secretary of state. This nation gained Egypt's subjugation and submission to the Zionist enemy, the Palestinian resistance's dispersion, Lebanon's occupation, and the murder of thousands of victims in the Sabra and Shatilah camps.

At the end of his commentary JANA's political editor says that any results of this tour by U.S. Secretary of State Shultz — who is renowned for his ugly face, as is the administration he is representing — will be no less than those of Kissinger's tours. Those who expect anything else are laboring under an illusion.

MOROCCO

King Hassan Meets With Saudi Defense Minister

LD041253 Rabat MAP in English 1200 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] Fes, May 4 (MAP) — King Hassan II of Morocco received Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-Aziz al Sa'ud, second deputy chairman of the Ministers Council and Saudi minister of defense and aviation, and the delegation accompanying him on Tuesday evening in Fes. Afterwards, the monarch and the Saudi prince held a tete a tete talk.

After this talks, King Hassan II hosted a dinner in honor of the Saudi prince. The dinner was attended by members of the Moroccan Government headed by Prime Minister Maati Bouabid, the speaker of the Moroccan House of Representatives, Mr. Dey Ould Sidi Baba, the delegation accompanying the Saudi minister as well as other civil and military officials.

ETHIOPIA

Zambia's Kaunda Addresses ECA Meeting

MB291033 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 29 Apr 83

[Text] President Kaunda yesterday lashed out at Western nations for their policies on southern Africa, saying they must choose now between helping the black majority fight for its independence or face a doubtful future for their investment plans. Unless apartheid is removed now, there is bound to be an explosion, Dr Kaunda warned, accusing the West of condemning South Africa while continuing to invest heavily there (?as if) they have chosen to run with the hare and hunt with the hounds, adding that the funds pouring into South Africa make a mockery of the meager resources reaching Africa in the form of aid. He was speaking on the 2d day of celebrations in Addis Ababa to mark the silver jubilee of the Economic Commission for Africa, ECA.

Meanwhile, President Kaunda is expected to address the first extroardinary meeting of the Authority of the Preferential Trade Area [PTA] for eastern and southern African states in Addis Ababa today. The extraordinary meeting, in which the president will be [words indistinct] as chairman of the PTA, has been arranged to admit Rwanda (?as the 14th member state) of the organization. President Juvenal Habyarimana is also in the Ethiopian capital to sign the agreement regarding Rwanda's PTA membership.

Ethiopian Battle Losses to ELF Reported

EA041729 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 0400 GMT 4 May 83

[Summary] Seventy-two Ethiopian soldiers were killed, and more than 90 were wounded and 1 soldier and 18 assorted weapons were captured during an engagement with ELF units in Barka [date of the engagement not given].

In another development, on the Nakfa front on 2 May, 27 Ethiopian soldiers were killed, 40 were wounded and 1 soldier, 8 Kalashnikov assault rifles, 1 Bren, and some other useful enemy materiel were captured.

KENYA

Libyan Envoy Protests Editorial's Criticism

EA041314 Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 4 May 83 p 24

["'Libya Is for Peace' — Envoy" — DAILY NATION headline]

[Text] Libya is not out to encourage rebellion in other African countries, the head of its embassy in Nairobi said yesterday. (Tahir at-Tumi), the Libyan charge d'affaires, was reacting to a press report quoting the Libyan leader, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, as having called for rebellion in other African countries.

Mr (at-Tumi) also took objection to a NATION editorial yesterday that was based on the report and was critical of the Libyan leader. The Libyan diplomat termed both the report and editorial as false and malicious.

The report carried by the French news agency on Friday quoted Col al-Qadhdhafi as telling a rally in Cotonou, Benin: We should permanently encourage African people to revolution and incite the revolutionary forces in African armies to rejoin African popular masses.

Referring to the editorial, Mr (at-Tumi) charged that it was one step of [as published] undermining Col al-Qadhdhafi before next month's summit meeting of the Organisation of African Unity. All African leaders and heads of state know Al-Qadhdhafi as very polite and sincere to other African leaders, as a person who never insults them like the editorial was saying, he said. He claimed that the editorial was meant to isolate Libya from other African countries and was either written or paid for by colonialists and racists who want to keep their interests against African peoples.

SEYCHELLES

President Rene Returns From Trip to DPRK, PRC

AB041609 Paris AFP in French 1333 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] Victoria, 4 May (AFP) — Seychelles President France Albert Rene, who returned to Mahe on Wednesday morning, described the outcome of his 2-week visit to the DPRK and the PRC as "good."

Joseph Belmont, the Seychelles minister of labor and social services, who also took part in the visit, said that the DPRK promised to send technicians to the Seychelles to examine ways of promoting agriculture and fish spawning.

Other technicians will examine the possibility of granite processing, while the DPRK will continue to provide Victoria with building materials, including cement and iron sheets.

[Words indistinct] a loan agreement totaling 4 million yuan (about Fr 1 million) for the completion of a polytechnical school which China is currently building in the Seychelles.

It was President Albert Rene's third visit to the DPRK and his second to the PRC since coming to power on 5 June 1977.

SOMALIA

Siad Barre Thanks Saudis for Mediation Efforts

LD041304 Riyadh SPA in English 1202 GMT 04 May 83

[Text] Jidda, May 4, SPA — Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre, in an interview published here today expressed his appreciation for the role being played by the Kingdom in the Horn of Africa and its strenuous efforts to normalize relations between Somalia and Kenya.

Barre told AL-MADINAH that history would with appreciation

note Saudi leaders great role in restoring good relations among the Arab Maghreb states and specially reconciliation between Morocco and Algeria.

He also welcomed good offices of Egypt and Italy to solve the Somali-Ethiopian dispute and expressed readiness to meet with the Ethiopian president at any place and time and without any preconditions once the Ethiopian forces withdraw from the Somali lands which [it] had captured recently.

Siad Barre Opens Trade Union Congress 3 May

EA041329 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 2045 GMT 3 May 83

[Excerpt] Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party [SRSP] Secretary General Challe Mohamed Siad Barre this afternoon officially opened the Second Congress of the General Federation of Somali Trade Unions at the Senior Police College in Mogadishu. The 3-day congress was also attended by the second vice president of the SDR, Major General Hussein Kulmie Afrah, members of the People's National Assembly and the SRSP Central Committee, foreign diplomats, delegates from Arab, African and other international trade unions, and other dignitaries.

Delivering a keynote speech to the congress, Challe Mohamed Siad Barre first thanked the delegates participating in the congress and Somali workers in general. He stressed the importance of the congress for the progress and welfare of the workers and called on them to fulfill the obligations expected of them. Challe Mohamed Siad Barre said it is vital to appreciate and recognize the contributions of workers, since workers are the backbone of the economy and of social development and spearhead the country's aspirations for progress in every sphere.

On the role of Somali workers, the SRSP secretary general said that no one can dispute the fact that Somali workers are the largest single force which supported the birth of the revolution and that they have armed themselves with the tools of production in response to the inspiration of the revolution.

Challe Mohamed Siad Barre said that in order for Somali workers to fulfill their obligations, it is imperative to have cooperation and unity in upholding justice and to reject any person who tries to divide them. At the same time, they must be ready to implement party directives and to safeguard rights and equality. Truth is the basis of upholding justice. Nepotism, favoritism, and tribalism -- the enemies of unity and human development — must be avoided.

The SRSP secretary general said tribalism is a dangerous disease and an element which could wreck the country, and therefore called upon the Somali nation to launch a campaign to eradicate it. Challe Mohamed Siad Barre said work is a social need on which the nation's progress is dependent, and called on Somali workers to be united in redoubling their work, increasing production in agriculture, and taking advantage of the country's abundant wealth.

On the problem of the Horn of Africa, the SRSP secretary general said the root cause of the problem is the injustice and humiliation inflicted on those living under Abyssinian rule. Self-determination for the oppressed people is the only answer to the problem.

In reply to the recent Abyssinian statement which indicated a willingness to grant independence and self-determination to the colonized people of western Somalia and Eritrea, the Somali Abo, and others under the oppressive regime's rule, Challe Siad said the statement is a lie and a trick aimed at confusing international opinion, which is closely following the oppression in Abyssinia and the armed struggle being waged against it by the nationalities under its rule.

If it is true that the Abyssinian regime is ready to grant self-determination to the people of western Somalia and others under its oppressive rule, then let it agree to independent elections under UN and OAU supervision. This is the only way to find out the wishes of those people, declared Challe Siad. Challe Mohamed Siad disclosed that only if the issue is handled in that way will the SDR be ready to give credence to the statement regarding self-determination and independence.

Challe Mohamed Siad Barre said the first prerequisite is an end to the killings and tortures inflicted on the colonized people. It is this which has forced thousands of refugees to flee to the SDR and other countries, thus placing strains on the economies of those countries.

Finally, the SRSP secretary general hoped that the congress would reach noteworthy conclusions which would promote the advancement of Somali workers and the community as a whole.

Minister Holds Press Conference in Kuwait

EA050409 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] The SDR minister of information and national guidance, Challe Colonel Mohamed Omar Jess, who is currently on an official visit to Kuwait, held a press conference there yesterday afternoon which was attended by Arab and other journalists. The minister briefed the press on the crisis in the Horn of Africa, which is becoming increasingly complicated; the eradication of qat; the Somalian campaign to strengthen instruction in Arabic; the crisis in the Middle East; and the ongoing Gulf war.

The minister said Abyssinia and its allies continue to mass troops along the Somali border, particularly in the areas around Galdogob and Balambal. Challe Jess added that the enemy and his allies have recently stepped up their provocative and bare-faced airborne aggression against Somalia, which has now reached as far as Berbera.

The minister of information said that the massive troop concentration along the border and the successive violations of Somali airspace by Abyssinia and its allies is a ground plan by the Abyssinian enemy and its allies to wage a new total war on the SDR. Challe Jess added that such a grand plan of aggression will not end in Somalia but will spread to other countries in the Horn of Africa and to those in the Gulf region. Challe Jess called on peace-loving nations to work together to determine how

lasting peace and stability may be brought to the Horn of Africa and to secure the withdrawal of foreign troops from the region.

The SDR minister of information and national guidance, Challe Col Mohamed Omar Jess, speaking on qat, said that it is a great burden on the economy and health of the Somali community and is responsible for many of the country's evils. Challe Jess added that qat was a very dangerous weapon used by Abyssinia to harm the nationhood and unity of Somalia.

The minister called on the Arab journalists to play an aggressive part in the eradication of qat and to counter the naked aggression by Abyssinia and its allies against the SDR.

The minister also held talks with Kuwait's deputy prime minister, who is also the minister for foreign and information affairs, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as Sabah.

SANA Cites Opposition Leader's Interview
JN031118 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0845 GMT 3 May 83

[Text] Damascus, 3 May (SANA) — 'Abd ar-Razzaq 'Umar al-Haj, commander of the Somali Democratic Salvation Front Forces, has emphasized that the front is waging daily battles all over Somalia against the renegade, dictatorial regime led by Siad Barre, an ally of imperialism and the treacherous, reactionary Camp David parties.

This came in an interview in today's AL-BA'TH with 'Umar al-Haj, commander of the front, and Yasin Muhammad Yusuf, Somali front representative in Damascus. The commander of the front added that over the last 4 months large-scale military operations have taken place in several cities and villages in the central, northern, and eastern regions such as (Jarbine), (Malas), Bale, (Bosil), (Askotonb), and (Odine). These operations have left 78 of the regime's soldiers killed, 22 captured and large quantities of weapons, ammunition, and hardware seized.

The Somali front representative in Damascus also explained the nature of the front's work, saying: We are working to mobilize the Somali masses against the dangers resulting from the continuation of the agent regime, which surrendered Somalia's sovereignty and security through U.S. military bases and the alliance with the Camp David parties, namely, As-Sadat's regime and, later, the regimes of Mubarak and Numayri, and by continuing to implement its designs by supporting the bloody Iraqi regime. The nature of the repressive regime, the extent of the emigration, and the causes of the starvation which our Somali masses are being exposed to have been revealed.

Radio Halgan: Air Force Fires on U.S. F-14's
EA032106 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 3 May 83

[Text] A statement issued by the U.S. Defense Department's Pentagon confirms that two F-14's were fired on by antiaircraft missiles while overflying the Somali coastal town of Berbera. The Pentagon report also disclosed that the pilots of the aircraft were not injured, as they were flying in the upper atmosphere and were able to counter the antiaircraft fire from the Somali Air Force.

A U.S. Defense Department spokesman, who requested anonymity, said at a press conference that the aircraft were from the USS America, and that the Somali Defense Ministry had failed to inform the Somali Air Defense Force based in Berbera of the flight exercises.

As is known, SONA, the news agency of the Barre dictatorship, last week reported the Barre regime's Defense Ministry as saying that three Ethiopian MIG-23's attacked the coastal town of Berbera.

Commenting on the issue, our political analyst said that the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force conducts exercises whenever they wish in Somali airspace and on its land and in its waters, openly violating Somali sovereignty and independence in collaboration with the Mogadishu regime's leader. The analyst went on to say that the Mogadishu regime's pledge to the United States not to repeat such a mistake is evidence of the conspiracy between Siad Barre and President Reagan.

CHAD

Bardai on French Involvement With Habre

AB032133 Bardai Chadian National Radio (Anti-Habre) in French 1820 GMT 3 May 83

[Text] What is driving French officials toward Ndjamena, now temporarily occupied by Hissein Habre? In fact, following Guy Penne, the French president's special adviser for African affairs, Christian Nucci, the minister delegate to the minister of external affairs for cooperation, has just ended a visit to Ndjamena. Do the French authorities entertain the hope of consolidating through their military and financial assistance the so-called power of Hissein Habre when his days in Ndjamena are numbered? In any case [words indistinct].

According to our permanent correspondent in Ndjamena, Christian Nucci's recent visit was aimed at urging Hissein Habre, the butcher, to open negotiations with the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT]. But on what principle does an extra-African country like France base its interferece in Chad's internal affairs? Our country's history is full of developments, negotiations and accords signed and later violated by Hissein Habre. Though a cosignatory to the Lagos agreements via the Kano I and Kano II agreements, Hissein Habre has always been reluctant to accept a global approach to the Chadian crisis.

As for the GUNT, which respects the Lagos accords as the only legal basis for Chadian institutions, it has not failed in its mission. In this connection, in spite of rebellion against the GUNT, it granted a general amnesty to all FAN elements, with the exception of Hissein Habre. Hissein Habre (?used the opportunity) to reorganize his troops.

By approaching the jailer of Mrs Francoise Claustre, French authorities initiate a new strategy aimed at preserving France's interests in the region at all costs. Furthermore, France has not hidden the fact that it supports the minority faction represented by the FAN against the crushing majority formed by the GUNT.

It is clear that the new revolutionary and socialist path advocated by the GUNT leaders is not likely to allay the fears of the French authorities. They cannot tolerate their agro-economic interests in Chad being the favorite target of the GUNT sympathizers engaged in an anti-imperialist struggle, in fact, a revolutionary struggle. This accounts for France's approaches to Hissein Habre; they are an attempt to save what can still be saved. Only recently, the gangster in Ndjamena was regarded by France and Western circles as the right man in the right place in Chad. In this connection, France replaced the OAU by the French-African conference held in Kinshasa. Propaganda campaigns were then orchestrated in Africa and Europe to legitimize Habre's so-called power.

The same media used in the campaigns now realize that the facts are different. Contrary to comments by these media, many thousands of Chadians are leaving their country to seek refuge abroad. Those who are obliged to stay in the country have expressed their discontent with the dictator in Ndjamena in the face of (?his attitude toward) the GUNT, their legitimate representative.

CONGO

Labor Party Central Committee Issues Communique

AB020640 Paris AFP in French 1111 GMT 1 May 83

[Excerpt] Brazzaville, 1 May (AFP) — The 12th session of the Central Committee of the Congolese Labor Party, which took place behind closed doors under the chairmanship of President Sassou-Nguesso, ended in Brazzaville on Saturday after meeting for 10 days.

The Central Committee dismissed Florent Ntsiba, minister of information, posts and telecommunications [words indistinct] and from the party's Central Committee.

The final communique issued at the end of the deliberations states that the Central Committee reviewed the world situation and examined the OAU crisis, which it feels is the result of "imperialist maneuvers."

On the national level, the communique states that the Central Committee strongly criticized the behavior of leading cadres that is in flagrant contradiction of official directives and solemnly warned party members who might be tempted to join the "enemies of the people."

The Central Committee assessed the implementation of the 5-year development plan and expressed satisfaction with the work done during the first phase (1982). The communique adds that available revenue increased by 27 percent in 1982 and more than 10,000 jobs were created.

ZAIRE

Counterfeit Currency Operation in Zambia Denied

AB010849 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1635 GMT 30 Apr 83

[Text] Kinshasa, 29 Apr (AZAP) — The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation in Zaire has categorically denied reports published by some sections of the press that the Zambian police have placed the Zairian Embassy in Lusaka under permanent surveillance because there was a machine printing counterfeit currency at the embassy. This view is contained in a communique from the department released to AZAP on Friday.

The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation rejects the unfounded report that there is a counterfeit currency printing machine in its embassy in Lusaka and that Zaire's Executive Council is negotiating with the Zambian Government on this issue.

The Zambian Government has never informed the Executive Council of the existence of such a practice and such activities at the Zairian Embassy in Lusaka.

These false and slanderous reports are deliberately made up to discredit Zaire in the eyes of world public opinion.

The Executive Council will take appropriate measures against this deceptive campaign launched against Zaire by forces that are hostile to the free expression of its sovereignty and political independence.

Talks With Israel Produce Transport Accord
AB301551 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1515 GMT 30 Apr 83

[Text] Kinshasa, 30 Apr (AZAP) — Discussions between Zaire and Israel at the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation today resulted in the signing of an agreement in the field of air transportation. According to the agreement, the two countries' national airways — Air Zaire and El-Al, will fly between Kinshasa and Tel Aviv.

Concerning the agreement on mutual encouragement of investment, discussions are continuing on how to determine the best means of achieving this.

The Zairian delegation is being led by Citizen Atembina te Bombo, director of European affairs in the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, while the Israeli side is being led by Mikha'eli Mikha'eli, the Israeli ambassador to Zaire.

GHANA

Goldminers, Students Clash; Curfew Imposed

AB041814 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] A report just received from Kumasi says the curfew hours of 12 midnight to 0500 have been changed from 2000 to 0500 in the Kumasi district with immediate effect. According to the Provisional National Defense Council regional secretary, Mr Kwame Dwemo Kessie, all demonstrations are banned in the region. The University of Science and Technology is closed down with immediate effect. All students have been given 24 hours to leave the campus. This action followed a clash between miners of the Ashanti Goldfield Corporation and the students at the campus today.

IVORY COAST

Houphouet-Boigny Receives Nigerian Minister

AB041113 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 0745 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] The head of state yesterday received in audience at Yamoussoukro Nigerian Foreign Affairs Minister Professor Ishaya Audu. He came to deliver a message to President Houphouet-Boigny from President Shehu Shagari. At the end of the discussion, which lasted 90 minutes, the Nigerian foreign affairs minister made the following statement to the press:

[Begin Audu recording in English fading into French translation] As far as bilateral issues are concerned, we discussed very little because, by and large, relations between Nigeria and the Ivory Coast are excellent. We dealt with multilateral issues at length. I discussed issues concerning the OAU with President Houphouet-Boigny. As you know, President Houphouet-Boigny is one of the OAU's founding fathers and attaches much importance to the survival and safeguarding of the organization. We are equally aware of his efforts, both political and economic, to keep the OAU strong in order to serve Africa. He told me about the difficulties encountered in creating the OAU, its current probblems, and how best to tackle and solve them.

I am returning home with the assurance that President Houphouet-Boigny will do everything in his power to safeguard the unity of Africa. [end recording]

Sekou Toure Makes 3-Hour Visit to Yamoussoukro

AB041420 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] Guinean head of state Ahmed Sekou Toure arrived in Yamoussoukro at 0900 this morning for a friendship visit to his brother, President Houphouet-Boigny. After a working session attended by three heads of state — Sekou Toure, Omar Bongo and Houphouet-Boigny — the Guinean president left for home at about 1200, just a short while ago. He made no statement on arrival or on departure.

Gong Dafei Meets President, Ministers

AB041411 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] PRC Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister Gong Dafei continues his visit to our country. Gong Dafei, who arrived here on Sunday, was received in audience on Monday at Yamoussoukro by President Houphouet-Boigny. This morning, the deputy PRC foreign affairs minister, who is now in Abidjan, paid a courtesy call on some Ivorian political leaders, specifically, National Assembly Speaker Henry Konan Bedie and Foreign Affairs Minister Simeon Ake. This afternoon Gong Dafei will be received by Ministers Fologo, Abdoulaye Kone and Bra Kanon. At about 2030, he will attend an official dinner party given in his honor by the Ivorian Government.

LIBERIA

Dan Criticizes Certain Fellow Politicians

AB041046 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] One of the officials who resigned recently to meet the deadline set by the Liberian head of state for potential politicians in Liberia to make their positions clear has described those who may have the political intention but did not follow his course as "lions in sheepskin" and warned the public to beware of such people. He said those who claim to be true revolutionaries and did not come out are doing disservice to the nation.

According to yesterday's edition of the DAILY OBSERVER newspaper, the official, Mr Marcus Dan, former deputy managing director for technical services of the National Housing Authority, was speaking at a press conference on Monday. Mr Dan was conducting a press conference in his office to clarify any misconception surrounding his resignation. The OBSERVER quoted Mr Dan as saying: "We were given instructions on what we should do. I followed that instruction." Mr Dan said he respected the wishes of his government, so he did what he was asked to do. He was further quoted as saying: "I did what I was supposed to do, so I will always stand by it." Mr Dan made it clear that he was not seeking the highest position in the country.

NIGER

Kountche Leaves on Official Visit to Guinea

AB041606 Paris AFP in French 1447 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] Niamey, 4 May (AFP) — It was learned from official sources in Niamey that Niger's head of state, General Seyni Kountche, left Niamey on Wednesday afternoon for Conakry, where he will begin an official visit, the duration of which was not specified.

President Kountche is accompanied by Major Dandi Abarchi, member of the Supreme Military Council and prefect of the region of Maradi; Daouda Diallo, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, and Ari Touba Ibrahim, minister of rural development.

General Kountche's visit, his first official trip to Guinea, reciprocates one made to Niger by President Ahmed Sekou Toure in February 1982, sources close to the presidency indicated.

Niamey University Students Call Boycott

AB031452 Paris AFP in French 1252 GMT 3 May 83

[Text] Niamey, 3 May (AFP) — Students of the University of Niamey, in the capital of Niger, began a general boycott of classes on Monday which is to last until Friday, reliable sources disclosed on Tuesday.

Heeding the call of the Union of Niger Students of the University of Niamey and a section of the Niger School Union, these students intend to use this action to protest the closing — decided upon last week by university authorities — of the School of Agronomy [ESA], the dismissal of 17 out of the school's 50 students (including a few Upper Voltans), and the suspension of 35 others.

These measures by the authorities, approved by the lecturers and research officers of the University of Niamey, were adopted after a long conflict between the students of the ESA and the university authorities over examination procedures.

According to a communique from the vice chancellor of the University of Niamey published by the press last week, the students who joined their ESA counterparts out of solidarity "invaded" the School of Agronomy on 21 April. They "kidnapped the director and the teachers present and made them stand in the sun for several hours while interrogating them amidst insults and threats."

The students of the University of Niamey "demand" the reopening of the ESA, the readmission of suspended students and the cancellation of the "collective zero" given to the students following their refusal to accept the examination procedures.

The University of Niamey, which is on the right bank of the Niger River, has about 1,800 students and has a student hall and several schools: science, law and economic sciences, health sciences, pedagogy, humanities and social sciences and ESA.

Situation at University Calm

AB041810 Paris AFP in French 1506 GMT 4 May 83

[Excerpts] Niamey, 4 May (AFP) — Classes have not resumed at the University of Niamey, Niger, where the situation became calm after the "decisive" intervention of security forces aimed at "neutralizing" students considered to be responsible for the disturbances which have been shaking the university for several days, it was learned from reliable sources.

The minister of higher education and research, Illa Maikassoua, appealed to students on radio and television on Tuesday evening to return to classes on Wednesday morning.

Illa Maikassoua pointed out that the government had ordered security forces to take "decisive" action on Tuesday afternoon in order to "neutralize" students found guilty of physical violence and who had prevented a majority of their colleagues from attending classes by putting up strike notices in front of the schools.

The authorities decided to order in police forces after a policeman who was on duty at the campus was overpowered, locked up and maltreated by students on the campus, according to reliable sources.

It was at that point that policemen, armed with guns and truncheons, besieged the university campus and released the policeman, who was later admitted to a hospital in serious condition, according to eyewitnesses.

Students clashed with the police, who used teargas to disperse them. Several dozen students were arrested and sent to military barracks near the capital, according to students who were interviewed on the campus. The same sources indicate that several persons were injured on both sides, either from stone throwing or by truncheons.

The lecturers, who were generally opposed to the student strike, returned to classes on Wednesday morning but there were no students. Lecturers who were interviewed said they did not know whether the students were boycotting classes in support of their colleagues or because they feared new violent clashes.

The university campus was perfectly calm on Wednesday. Some students were lying on the green grass while, 200 meters away, armed policemen patrolled the road which leads downtown, on the other side of the Niger River.

NIGERIA

Government To Authorize PLO Bureau

AB041356 Paris AFP in English 1319 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] Lagos, May 4 (AFP) — The Nigerian Government has authorized the Palestine Liberation Organisation to open a bureau here. The decision was announced last night in a presidential statement after a meeting between an Arab League delegation and Nigerian Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Bello Kirfi.

The statement did not say what status the PLO bureau would have.

Sao Tome President Makes Stopover in Lagos

AB041600 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] President Manuel da Costa of the Republic of Sao Tome and Principe made a stopover in Lagos today on his way home from a visit to Gabon. President da Costa and his entourage were received at Murtala Mohamed Airport by the vice president, Dr Alex Ekwueme. He had talks with Dr Ekwueme at the presidential lounge before his departure for home.

TOGO

Radio Announces Slight Government Restructuring

AB041937 Lome Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] By a decree signed today by General Gnassingbe Eyadema, founding chairman of the Togolese People's Rally and the president of the republic, the Government of the Togolese Republic is restructured as follows: Industry is reattached to the Ministry of Planning and Administrative Reform. A state secretariat in charge of budget has been created within the Ministry of Economy and Finance headed by Yao Agbo, former secretary of state at the presidency in charge of industries and state enterprises.

Pik Botha To Meet Mozambique Counterpart 5 May

MB051150 Joahnnesburg SAPA in English 1146 GMT 5 May 83

[Text] Cape Town, May 5, SAPA — The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, meets his Mozambican counterpart at Komatipoort on the South African border today. The top-level meeting comes against a background of another propaganda war between the two countries. High on today's agenda is understood to be Mozambique allegations that South Africa was involved in a plot to assassinate President Samora Machel.

The meeting follows secret talks last year between South Africa and Mozambique over ANC incursions into South Africa. A spokesman for the Department of Foreign Affairs and Information today confirmed the meeting was to be held. "Matters of mutual interest will be discussed," he said.

Mr Botha is being accompanied by senior members of his department, including the director-general, Mr Hans van Dalsen. This is the second known meeting to have taken place at this level since Mozambican independence.

ANGOLA

Angolan Defense Minister Ends CSSR Visit

AB041852 Luanda ANGOP in French 1812 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] Prague, 4 May (ANGOP) — The 3-day visit to Czechoslovakia by an Angolan military delegation led by the minister of defense, Pedro Maria Tonha Pedale, contributed towards the continuous development of relations of friendship and cooperation between the two peoples, their governments, and parties says a final communique issued at the end of the Angolan leader's visit to that country.

The communique, issued in Prague yesterday at the end of talks between the two parties, stresses that the two delegations examined a large number of bilateral issues and expressed satisfaction with the development of mutual and cooperative relations.

Still within the framework of his visit to Czechoslovakia, the Angolan minister of defense also held a round of talks with his Czechoslovak counterpart, General Martin Dzur, during which the two men discussed issues linked to the development of relations between their two armies. During these talks the two parties also discussed perspectives for future cooperation.

It is appropriate to note that Czechoslovakia constitutes the last stage of the tour by the Angolan minister of defense, who has also visited Bulgaria and Hungary.

West's Lack of 'Commitment' to Namibia Noted

AB300903 Luanda ANGOP in French 1252 GMT 29 Apr 83

[ANGOP Editorial: "The Bias of Mankind"]

[Text] Luanda, 29 Apr (ANGOP) — South Africa is the only country in the world which has officially instituted racism as a government policy. It has boldly and shamelessly insisted with increasing frequency that it is "hurt" by what it calls the "bias" of the United Nations regarding the Namibian problem.

Using this as a pretext, South Africa refused, for example, to attend the international conference on Namibia being held in Paris, pretending that SWAPO is not the sole and legitimate representative of the Namibian people. According to the racists, the puppets they created should also have been invited to the conference.

When they accuse the United Nations of being "biased," the Pretoria racists forget or pretend not to know that the United Nations is an organization which brings together about 150 countries, almost all the nations of the world. They are not aware or pretend to have forgotten that the recognition of SWAPO as "the sole and legitimate representative of the Namibian people" is not simply a mere recognition of a small group that has evil intentions against South Africa, [as received] but it is without a doubt a clear condemnation of the illegal occupation of Namibian territory by the racists and a clear condemnation of apartheid by mankind in general.

South Africa's position is understandable, given the logic of its repressive policies. But what is unacceptable is that the Western press and the circles interested in the survival of apartheid echo the absurd arguments put forward by the racists to prolong their military occupation of a territory placed under United Nations mandate. They create and divide parties, invent "parliaments" and resort to blackmail and threats as if they were in their own country.

The simple and fundamental problem of the urgent need to totally decolonize the African Continent is converted into an East-West conflict by South Africa, which uses that as an excuse to interfere in the internal affairs of other countries in the region or — and this is more serious — it perpetrates direct aggression and organizes armed bandits to destabilize the economic and political climates of countries that have declared themselves to be frontline states against apartheid and racism. For example, what right has South Africa to ask for the withdrawal of the internationalist troops who came to Angola with the sole aim of protecting that country precisely against invasion from Pretoria's troops, who had already entered Kwanza-South Province? Who is threatening who, and who is illegally staying in someone else's territory? Evidently, it is the racists.

It is important to emphasize that these aggressive acts and provocations by South Africa are only made possible thanks to the direct support of the United States (which invented the "linkage issue," something that had not occurred to the racist themselves) and with the blessing of member countries of the Contact Group, who, with rare exception, seem to be devoted more to guaranteeing their military and commercial "contact" with the racists than settling the issue of Namibia's independence

If there is any criticism to be made of the international community, it is not what concerns the so-called "bias" for SWAPO, but, rather, its lack of concrete commitment to the Namibian issue. Only 2 days ago in the French capital, the Angolan foreign minister asked: "How many deaths and how much destruction

does the international community need before it actually takes up its responsibility on the Namibian issue?" This is a problem for all mankind.

The racists are taking advantage of the discrepancy between theory and practice to buy time and to continue their destabilizing actions in the southern region of our continent. This falls within the framework of a larger strategy which is ultimately in the interest of the United States and its Western allies.

Indeed, (?the unanimous) condemnation of apartheid remains a positive act. Although it is not enough, it is reassuring to know that, sooner or later, Namibia will be independent under SWAPO leadership. South Africa should, therefore, conform to the rest of mankind's "bias" against the monstrous crimes of apartheid which, in the name of race and money, it commits against the people of southern Africa.

Johannesburg Cites Savimbi on Prisoner Exchanges

MB041750 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] The leader of the Angolan resistance movement UNITA, Dr Jonas Savimbi, says the two groups of foreigners detained by UNITA in the industrial town of Alto Catumbela 2 months ago will be divided into smaller groups if MPLA forces do not stop ambushing and bombing them. The first group of Czechoslovakians and Portuguese workers arrived at UNITA's main base in southern Angola last week.

Dr Savimbi said that UNITA wanted to exchange a number of Czechoslovakians for a number of mercenaries serving sentences in Luanda because he was approached to do so. He said that when the MPLA Government freed American prisoners in exchange for two Soviet pilots last year, a precedent had been set, and the same principles could be applied again. Dr Savimbi said that he was also planning to exchange a number of UNITA's leaders held in MPLA political prisons for the remaining Czechoslovakians.

LESOTHO

Foreign Minister on Talks With RSA Counterpart

MB031226 Maseru Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 3 May 83

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, the Honorable E.R. Sekhonyana, said that Lesotho and South Africa are anxious to see to the speedy execution of the Highland Water Project. The minister was speaking at a reception in Maseru last night for visiting diplomats and other foreign dignitaries attending the king's birthday celebrations. He told the diplomats that this was discussed at his meeting in Pretoria with Mr R.F. Botha, South Africa's foreign minister. He also said the discussions were on bilateral issues between Lesotho and South Africa. Other southern African issues were also discussed.

The Honorable Mr Sekhonyana said that the presence of so many diplomats on this occasion is an indication of the association with the aspirations of the Basotho people. He expressed the hope that they will be here again in future for similar occasions.

MALAWI

Delegation Leaves for SADCC Meeting 4 May

MB041748 Blantyre Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] A 10-man Malawi delegation left the country today for Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, to attend a Council of Ministers meeting of the Southern Africa Development Coordination Conference (SADCC), which opens tomorrow.

Speaking to the Malawi Broadcasting Corporation before his departure from Kamazu International Airport in Lilongwe, the minister of transport and communications, Mr Louis Chimango, said that during the meeting the ministers would review the progress that has been made on the various SADCC programs. Mr Chimango added that the meeting will also prepare for the SADCC summit meeting which will be held in Maputo, Mozambique, sometime this year, and the SADCC group meeting that will be held in Zambia in November of this year.

Malawi's delegation at the Dar es Salaam meeting will be led by the minister of finance, Mr Chaziya Phiri, who is already out of the country. The delegation also includes the minister of forestry and natural resources, Mr Stanford Demba.

MOZAMBIQUE

Cooperation Agreement Signed With Afghan Party

MB041754 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 3 May 83

[Text] Yesterday in Maputo a cooperation agreement was signed between the Frelimo Party and the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan.

The document was signed by Joaquim Chissano, member of the Political Bureau and the secretary for foreign affairs of the Frelimo Party Central Committee, and by Gol Aqa, member of the Political Bureau of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and head of the Afghan delegation which took part in the fourth Frelimo congress.

Ministers Leave for SADCC Council Meeting

MB031745 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 3 May 83

[Text] Rui Baltazaar, minister of finance, and Alcantara Santos, minister of ports and land transport, have just left Maputo for Dar es Salaam, where they will participate in a meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference [SADCC]. The meeting will examine regional cooperation in the fields of agriculture, energy, transportation, health, and telecommunications.

Meanwhile, the preparatory meeting of the SADCC Council of Ministers began in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

SOUTH AFRICA

South African 'Agent' Said To Appear on TV

MB031000 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 3 May 83

[Text] Reports from Maputo claim that a South African agent has appeared on a television program in Mozambique after being captured close to the border between the two countries. He has been named as 36-year old Mr (Peter Benjamin Schoeman) of Pretoria.

According to the reports, he was sent to Mozambique to gather information on the distribution of power from the Cabora Bassa hydroelectric scheme, to copy government files, to obtain a plan of the Polana Hotel in Maputo, and to take part in an assassination plot against President Samora Machel of Mozambique.

Mr (Schoeman) appeared to be at ease during the television interview and spoke English with an Afrikaans accent.

Investigation of Accused Spies Nearly Complete

MB031313 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1123 GMT 3 May 83

[Text] Pretoria, May 3, SAPA — A top-level security police investigation into the alleged spying activities of South African Navy Commodore Dieter Gerhardt and his wife is nearing completion, according to the Security Police chief-designate, Brigadier Francois Steenkamp.

The Simonstown dockyard commander and his Swiss wife, Ruth, 40, are being detained in terms of Section 29 of the Internal Security Act.

Brigadier Steenkamp said in Pretoria today that investigations were nearing completion, and the detailed docket would be forwarded to the attorney-general of the Cape within a week.

Minister 'Advised' Boycott of Cheysson Ceremony

MB031401 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 3 MAY 83 p 1

[By Patrick Laurence, political editor]

[Text] The foreign minister, Mr Pik Botha, declared yesterday he had "advised" the administrator-general [AG] in South-West Africa, Mr Willie van Niekerk, not to share a platform with the French ambassador, Mr F.M. Plaissant, at the centenary celebrations in Luderitz at the weekend.

His advice was given in protest against "disparaging remarks" about South Africa made by the French foreign minister, Mr Claude Cheysson, at a United Nations conference on SWA in Paris last week, he said in a statement.

Labelling the conference an "artificial platform" for SWAPO, Mr Botha said: "Mr Cheysson emphasised that France would go out of its way to hinder social relations, including sporting ties, with South Africa."

Under these circumstances he had no intention of apologising for advising the AG not to attend the ceremony — to which Mr Plaisant was invited to accept an award on behalf of Mr Cheysson.

The award, for international understanding in Africa, was made by the Luderitzbucht Foundation.

Elaborating on his decision, Mr Botha said: "It would have been hypocritical from our side and left Mr Cheysson with the impression that the South African Government meekly accepted his utterances." Mr Botha went on to criticise Mr Cheysson for referring to South Africa's "occupation" of SWA and accused him of not contributing to an acceptable settlement of the SWA dispute. He concluded: "I find it difficult to imagine a more appropriate action than the presence of the administrator-general at the occasion in Luderitz."

The French Embassy said in response yesterday: "We do not comment on an explanation of South African views expressed by the minister of foreign affairs himself."

In his speech to the UN conference on SWA, Mr Cheysson was openly critical of the American-initiated — and South African-supported — move to link settlement in SWA to withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola.

In what was interpreted by observers as a reference to the decision, Mr Cheysson told the conference "only unacceptable pretexts and conditions raised by others" were delaying settlement of the SWA dispute.

Meanwhile more facts have emerged about the row which erupted at the weekend, Koos Coetzee reports from Windhoek. Dr van Niekerk phoned the Luderitzbucht Foundation last Friday morning strongly objecting to being part of the same ceremony as the prize-giving. It is also believed the commanding officer of the SWA Territory Force, Major-General Charles Lloyd, raised the same objections as Dr van Niekerk. According to reliable sources Dr van Niekerk insisted the prize-giving take place the day after the Luderitz centenary programme.

The foundation felt obliged to remove the prize-giving from the official programme in order to avoid a walkout by Dr van Niekerk, Gen Lloyd and others such as the leader of the National Party in SWA, Mr Kosie Pretorious. It did not, however, agree that the prize be awarded the next day, and the prize-giving ceremony was held the same afternoon in the Roman Catholic church in Luderitz.

At that stage Dr van Niekerk and Mr Pretorious had already left, while Gen Lloyd and Mr Dirk Mudge were still in Luderitz, but did not attend the ceremony in the church.

R.F. Botha, Lesotho Foreign Minister Meet

MB021657 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 2 May 83 p 2

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs and information, Mr Pik Botha, yesterday met the Lesotho minister of foreign affairs, Mr E.R. Sekhonyana, and the minister of water, energy, and mining, Mr Matete Majara, in Pretoria to discuss the Highlands Water Project and other matters concerning bilateral relations, the Department of Foreign Affairs said in a statement yesterday. The ministers reaffirmed the importance of the project, and agreed a feasibility study should proceed as expeditiously as possible.

The meeting was the first between the new Lesotho foreign minister and Mr Botha. Observers in Maseru believe the meeting will help improve the present sour relations between Lesotho and South Africa since the SADF attack in Maseru and Lesotho's claim that South Africa assisted dissidents of the Lesotho Liberation Army in their attacks on Lesotho, apparently from South African territory.

Pik Botha Criticizes Racism, Immorality Act

MB300904 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 30 Apr 83

[By Chris Freimond, political reporter]

[Excerpt] Tzaneen — The minister of foreign affairs and information, Mr Pik Botha, said on Thursday there was no justification for racism in South Africa — and he would not stand for it.

Speaking at a public meeting in Tzaneen attended by about 2,000 people, Mr Botha said the Immorality Act was "doing South Africa harm."

"The government will stand and fight for civilised norms and standards, and will maintain a strong defence and police force to defend those norms and standards, but while I am a member of the current government I will not stand for racism purely on the grounds of the colour of a man's skin," Mr Botha maintained.

Minister Expresses Concern Over AWB, Crime

MB031040 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT3 May 83

[Text] The minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, says the principles of and statements by the Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging [AWB] and its leader, Mr Eugene Terre'Blanche, seen as a whole, present a very disturbing picture. Speaking during the discussion of his budget vote by a standing committee of the House of Assembly in the Senate chamber, he said the healthy race relations in the country dared not be disturbed. The minister said the continual emotion-charged speeches of Mr Terre'Blanche would lead to violent and impermissable unrest situations.

He warned the AWB and Mr Terre'Blanche that the government would not allow any form of private army in the country. The minister said he was not prepared at this stage to disclose any information about the investigation into the AWB announced by the prime minister last week.

Mr Le Grange said the Conservative Party and the AWB were as close as brothers in their approach to the political struggle and their behavior at political meetings. He accused the Conservative Party of making a significant contribution to riotous situations at political meetings.

He said he was very concerned about the increase in crime in South Africa, and plans were underway to enlarge the police force in a few years' time. It was intended to increase the size of the force by about 60 percent from 43,000 to 68,000 men when funds became available. The minister said recruiting for the police had shown a marked increase over the past year. The 1983 intake was about 3,600 more than last year. Mr le Grange also said closed circuit television equipment had been bought for use in cells of security detainees at John Vorster Square to prevent them hurting themselves or being hurt by others. Referring to shooting incidents involving police, he pointed out that he had expressed his concern about the handling of firearms by the police force in a letter to the commissioner of police. He said he was convinced that shooting incidents could be appreciably reduced.

SWAZILAND

Delegation Leaves for SADCC Ministerial Meeting

MB031752 Mbabane Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 3 May 83

[Text] The minister for finance, Mr J.L.F. Simelane, left the country yesterday for Tanzania at the head of a Swazi delegation to attend a Southern African Development Coordination Conference [SADCC] ministerial meeting, which started today in Dar es Salaam.

Mr Simelane, leading a seven-man Swazi delegation, is joining an advance party that left the country last week to attend a preparatory meeting of the SADCC states. The advance party comprised the permanent secretary for economic planning, Mr Vusi Sikhondze; the permanent secretary for works, power and communications, Mr G. Mabila; Mr C. Nkonyane, senior planning officer; and Mr T. (Kesner), planning officer and adviser to the Department of Economic Planning and Statistics. The delegation is expected back home next week.

ZAMBIA

Price of Corn Raised in Austerity Move

AB031523 Paris AFP in English 1412 GMT 3 May 83

[Text] Lusaka, May 3 (AFP) — Zambia today raised the price of maize meal, the staple food of the six million inhabitants of this southern African state, in an austerity move that looked set to aggravate tension between the government and organized labour.

Prices of various grades of maize meal went up an average of 30 percent from 13 to 16.90 kwacha (about 14 to 19 dollars) per 50

kilo bag for the cheapest grind. At the same time, the government raised the price of fertilizers by nearly 100 per cent in some cases. The hikes were seen here as one of the conditions for the 230 million dollar credit recently granted by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to help Zambia out of its economic troubles caused by declining revenue for its copper exports and financial mismanagement. A government spokesman said subsidies on maize meal, which were 155 million kwacha (176 million dollars) last year, had dropped in this year's budget to 83 million kwacha (94 million dollars) and consumers would have to make up the difference.

Other austerity measures since the beginning of the year have included increases in prices of meat and other consumer goods, and a 20 per cent devaluation of the kwacha. The latest price hike, however, came at a time when the powerful Zambia Congress of Trade Unions (ZCTU) has threatened a general strike in support of its wage claims.

The government of President Kenneth Kaunda has proposed a 10 per cent ceiling on salary raises this coming year — reportedly five per cent higher than the limit the IMF wanted — but the ZCTU has said this may not be enough.

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe Cites Need To Correct Leadership

MB041258 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] Scores of women demonstrated in Harare today in support of the prime minister's attack on avaricious leaders who are amassing wealth, making a mockery of the revolution.

Addressing the women, Comrade Mugabe said there is need to correct the country's leadership from government to grassroots level to make it reflect the current socioeconomic system. He pointed out that the revolution was not meant to enable leaders to live in luxury, but to bring the country's wealth to the people. He said individualism and noncommitment to socialism is counterproductive to the country's stated goals.

SWAPO's Nujoma Arrives, Comments on Namibia

MB041848 Harare Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] The president of the South-West African People's Organization (SWAPO) of Namibia, Comrade Sam Nujoma, has called on the United Nations to take the initiative of finding a solution to the territory's independence question. Comrade Nujoma, who arrived in Harare yesterday for a short visit to Zimbabwe, told newsmen in Harare today that SWAPO has lost confidence in the ability of the so-called Western Contact Group to find a solution to the territory's problems. He said the negative attitude of the American Government, which advocates the linking of the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola as a precondition for granting independence to Namibia, has complicated attempts to reach a settlement.

Comrade Nujoma accused the Pretoria regime of perpetrating acts of terrorism on the civilian population in Namibia. He said the racist troops of the white minority regime are engaging in cold-blooded murders of innocent women and children and teachers suspected of being members of SWAPO.

PRC, DPRK Party Delegations Arrive for Visits

MB050730 Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 5 May 83

[Text] Two delegations — of the Chinese Communist Party, CPC, and the Workers Party of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, DPRK — are in Zimbabwe at the invitation of ZANU-PF. Welcoming the Chinese delegation yesterday, the organizing secretary of ZANU-PF, who is also the minister of mines, Comrade Maurice Nyamgumbo, said his party would love to learn from the CPC in technology, economics, defense, and politics. Comrade Nyamgumbo said ZANU-PF has both internal and external enemies and would value the experience of China in defense.

The leader of the Chinese delegation, Comrade Jiang Guanghua, said the visit to China in 1981 by Prime Minister Comrade Robert Mugabe enabled the two countries to build and strengthen their friendship and solidarity.

Ministers Leave for SADCC Meeting in Tanzania

MB041300 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 4 May 83

[Text] Cabinet ministers left Harare today for Tanzania, where they will attend a 2-day meeting of the Southern Africa Development Coordination Conference, SADCC. The ministers — Dr Chidzero of finance, economic planning, and development; and Comrade Masango of transport; Comrade Makoni of industry and energy development; and Comrade Shava of manpower planning and development — are expected to return to Harare on Friday.

Radio Truth Comments on Senate Candidate

MB031204 (Clandestine) Radio Truth in English to Zimbabwe 1700 GMT 2 May 83

[Text] It is reported from Harare that the former president of the Association of Chambers of Commerce of Zimbabwe, Mr Brian Grubb, is to stand for the Senate as an independent. Mr Grubb told the Harare SUNDAY MAIL that he was very grateful to the independent members of Parliament for nominating him. It must be pointed out that Mr Grubb is running for the Senate seat left vacant by the murder of Senator Paul Savage.

We wish Mr Grubb well and trust he will treat his seat with the dignity and honesty it deserves, should he win. However, if Mr Grubb should follow the example of other so-called independents in their slavish adherence to ZANU-PF, then he wil be able to be counted in their ranks. Should this be the case, and we trust it will not be, should Mr Grubb win his Senate seat, his future and his fame would be (?attached to) that of Robert Mugabe.